The Front Line Wins
When the Home Front
Endures

Nippon Times

Home, Office, Workshop—
Battlefields All, for
Victory

No. 15,854 (THE 18th YEAR of SHOWA) TOKYO, MONDAY, MAY 17, 1943 第三種郵便物認可 昭和十五年十二月二十七日 Price 15 Sen

RUSSELL ISLE RAID PROVES SUPERIORITY OF JAPANESE CRAFT

Imperial Naval Fliers Downed 38 Enemy Planes Despite Numerical Inferiority

THRILLING AIR DUEL

Foe's Plan for Counter-Offensive in Southwestern Pacific Frustrated

Japanese naval fliers proved to the world that their fighting technique is far superior to that of the enemy, quarters close to the Navy said Saturday in commenting upon the announcement of the Imperial Headquarters on the results of the air raid against Russell Island on May 13.

Japanese fighters on May 13 raided Russell Island, one of the enemy's main air bases in the southern Pacific and more than [illegible]0 enemy planes challenged the Japanese, these quarters said. After spectacular aerial duels the Japanese airmen, despite their inferior numerical strength, accounted for 34 Grummans, one P-38 and three P-39, making a total of 38 enemy machines shot down.

Only two of our machines, were still missing, making ratio of results scored by Japanese 38 to 2, these quarters pointed out.

It was also disclosed that despite the constant attempts of the enemy to effect counter-offensives against Japan, the Imperial Japanese Navy Air Force has always forestalled the enemy in the Southern Pacific, in almost daily contacts with enemy planes.

On May 11, they said, Japanese bombers escorted by fighters carried out a daylight raid on Merauke, New Guinea, while on May 14 a similar formation launched a night raid on Guadalcanal, wreaking havoc on military barracks, fuel depots and ammunition depots at these places. Fires were started at more than a dozen places in Merauke and Guadalcanal, while all our machines safely returned to their base from these raids, these quarters said.

DIFFICULTIES FACE U.S. IN TRANSPORTING PLANES

British Technicians Return From Inspection Tour of American Factories

The United States Government is sorely vexed with the extremely difficult problem of sending aircraft to the war fronts which are in all cases so distant from the American shores, it was maintained by the leader of a group of 11 British aeronautical engineers who recently returned to the British Isles after an inspection tour in the United States, according to a Domei report from Lisbon on Friday.

The spokesman of the group reported the results of inspection tour in gist as follows:

"Our group of 11 technicians was dispatched by the British Airplane Production Ministry for a three month inspection tour of the various airplane factories in the United States.

"In 1939, there were approximately 50,000 workers employed in the American aircraft industries, but during 1941, the total was increased to 500,000 employees, and at the present, there are 1,500,000 laborers employed. By the close of this year, it is anticipated that 2,500,000 workers will be engaged in the aircraft industries.

"The majority of the plants have been constructed recently, and are fully equipped with perfect illumination and ventilation facilities.

"In the fuselage factories, women workers comprise from 15 to 30 per cent of the laborers, while in the propeller factories, they form from eight to 15 per cent of the employees.

"The production of airplanes is running rather smoothly, but extreme difficulties are being confronted in the transportation of the machines to the war fronts that are so distant from the American shores. With the progress of production, the American Government is being confronted by the increasing seriousness of the transportation problem."

British Reveal Sub Loss

The loss of the British submarine, Splendid, operating in the Mediterranean, was announced by the British War Ministry on May 14, and the fate of crew is unknown, according to London dispatches to Lisbon relayed by Domei.

East Asia Promises to Become Most Powerful Economic Bloc

By Our Political Commentator

To have been born in this swift-moving era of startling, changes is a rare privilege. To have the opportunity to do one's share of work to keep the wheels of progress moving, to be able to march in step with one billion others toward a definite glittering goal, to watch the fascinating spectacle of Greater East Asia's tremendous rise are thrilling experiences for which we should all be duly grateful.

At no time in the long history of making has there been anything to parallel the wide sweeping scope of the trend of events of today; there has been nothing remotely equalling the powerful drama of East Asia's present renaissance.

A few days ago, at the Manila Hotel in the capital of the Philippines, medium-built, modest, conscientious Kazuo Aoki, Japan's Minister of Greater East Asiatic Affairs, described his tour through the Southern Regions, declared he was highly gratified with the all-out enthusiasm with which the people of the South are cooperating with the Japanese in building the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere. His sincerity was unmistakable, and the Filipino and Japanese newspapermen to whom he spoke were thrilled.

But the most significant statement he made that day was this: that the Greater East Asia Economic Bloc after the war will be the world's most powerful, most impressive economic bloc. Backed by the weight of authority, confirmed through the actual observation of prevailing conditions by a keen-eyed, discriminating observer, these words packed dynamic punch, left his listeners gasping, pleasantly stunned, deeply impressed.

Speaking with deliberate slowness, considering each word fully, Minister Aoki told the members of the press that the establishment of a great economic bloc requires three things: manpower, natural resources, and scientific and technological leadership. He pointed out that in manpower, East Asia is overwhelmingly the greatest of all regional blocs, that with the vast resources of oil, rubber, iron, aluminum and other materials formerly held by the Anglo-Americans but now securely in Japan's hands, Greater East Asia is also easily the leader in natural resources. As for scientific and technological leadership, he said, there is Japan—Japan, whose rapid ascent to the position of a first-class power has bewildered the rest of the world, whose Army and Navy have fully demonstrated their ability to match and crush the best that the enemy has to offer, whose scientists and technicians have made vital, important contributions in their respective fields.

One cannot overestimate the importance of that statement. For those bewildered by the pressing exigencies of war, here is something definite and concrete to hang on to. Those who have had their eyes too long on the ground have had their eyes opened and lifted to the inspiring and unchanging pattern of the stars above. Here is a challenge to which the peoples of Greater East Asia cannot help but respond, a goal toward which we can all march.

But in looking toward the future, the peoples and nations of Greater East Asia must work for the present and remember the past. They must constantly bear in mind that it is Japan which has made possible the attainment of future prosperity for all of East Asia, that it is the Land of the Rising Sun which is the inspiration, the driving force in the battle for East Asia's liberty. And they must remember that it was the dark forces of Anglo-American imperialistic domination which kept millions of Asiatics in economic, political and spiritual poverty for so many decades despite the tremendous resources which Asia has always had. They must remember the enemy's arrogant assumption of superiority, the enemy's brutal selfishness, and they must vow that the past years of bitter humiliation will never be repeated. They must fight, fight with all they possess, with all their heart and soul, until Greater East Asia is completely and forever their own. They must fight in the firm belief that to be able to do their part in the present battle is a distinctly rare privilege.

SULTAN AHMED BEY GRABBED BY GIRAUD

Arrested Because of Pro-Axis Attitude

Sultan Sidi Ahmed Bey, the nominal ruler of Tunisia, was arrested and deprived of his rights on the grounds that he had displayed pro-Axis inclinations, it was disclosed by General Henri Giraud, head of the French puppet regime in North Africa on Saturday, according to a Domei report from Lisbon which relayed a broadcast from Algiers.

It was simultaneously announced that Sidi Mohammed Bey was installed as Sultan.

According to the broadcast, the French resident-general and four other high French officials were sentenced to death by court martial on charges that they had cooperated with the Axis camp, the dispatch added.

Brooke in London

Prime Minister of Northern Ireland Basil Brooke arrived in London on Friday, and after being granted audience by King George VI, entered into discussions with Deputy Prime Minister Clement Attlee and Minister of Airplane Production Sir Stafford Cripps, according to a Lisbon dispatch to Domei on Saturday, in reporting a wire from London.

Reich Patrol Boats Hit Foe

Domei

BERLIN, May 15.—The Reichsfuehrer's Headquarters made the following announcement at noon today: "On the night of May 13 a German patrol fleet encountered an enemy squadron off the coast of the Netherlands and sank one enemy speed boat and inflicted damages upon two other ships. There were no losses or damages on the German side."

UPRISINGS CONTINUE IN DISAFFECTED IRAN

Several British Soldiers Killed in Riots

Riotings in the various districts of Iran have not in the least abated in spite of the frantic efforts of the anti-Axis forces stationed in Iran to subdue the uprisings, states a Domei dispatch from Istanbul relayed from Teheran.

In the Kurdistan region, a large number of Iran population, divided into three groups, stormed the British forces garrisoned in the district, and smashed all facilities as well as pillaging all food supply and arms. Several British soldiers were killed.

A large detachment, comprised of the Fifth Corps of the Iran Gendarmerie and the Indian Corps, rushed to the spot, and in the ensuing struggle with the Iran populace a large number of the Iran gendarmes were killed or wounded.

U.S. ARMY HEAD IN TEHERAN

Handy and High Officer of Air Force See Soviet Envoy

Domei

ISTANBUL, May 15.—Brigadier-General Thomas T. Handy, Chief of Staff of the American Military Operations in Cairo and a certain brigadier-general, of the American air forces, are reported to have arrived in Teheran from Cairo, according to Teheran dispatches.

The two American brigadier-generals remained in Teheran only for a few days, and it is reported that during their stay they entertained the Soviet Ambassador to Teheran, and conferred with Soviet military attaches.

GERMAN AIR FORCE SINKS TWO VESSELS ANCHORED AT BONE

Reich Army Pierces Red Army's Defense Lines in Kuban Sector

LOCAL ATTACKS MADE

149 Soviet Planes Downed in Five Days—R.A.F. Raids Kiel and Antwerp

German bombers last Friday night raided the harbor area of Bone in North Africa and sank one enemy oil tanker, in addition to inflicting heavy damages upon one enemy merchantman, the Reichsfuehrer Headquarters announced at noon Saturday, states Domei.

In the Kuban sector, the Germans launched local offensives, and broke through Soviet defense lines at several points.

Meanwhile, enemy air units last Friday attacked the western territories under German occupation and the northern coast of Germany. In this particular raid, enemy planes dropped bombs on Kiel and Antwerp as well as on various cities in Belgium, causing casualties among innocent civilians. However, 30 enemy raiders were shot down by the Germans, the communique states, adding that the German air force also lost seven fighting machines in this battle.

Furthermore, the German Military Authorities stated that one hundred and twelve of the Anglo-American planes that attempted to raid Germany and the German occupied territory in western Europe were downed by the Luftwaffe within 48 hours' time.

At least 82 of the enemy planes destroyed were heavy bombers, it was also revealed.

Soviet Positions Blasted

The Luftwaffe bombed the Soviet troops at a certain bridgehead on the Kuban River on Friday, and in middle districts of the Kuban sector. Also, Reich warplanes raided Soviet artillery positions and repeatedly pounded the commissary lines of the Red Army in this area, it was disclosed by information given by the German military quarters, according to a Domei report from Berlin on Saturday.

German sources also revealed that 149 Soviet planes were downed by the Luftwaffe during the five days between May 10 and May 14.

CHURCHILL FULLY OCCUPIED CONFERRING IN WASHINGTON

Breaks Daily Talk With Roosevelt to See Hull, Benes, Soong and Evatt

Ever since his arrival in Washington, British Prime Minister Churchill has been engrossed in daily conferences with President Roosevelt and the Anglo-American military leaders, according to a Domei report from Buenos Aires, quoting a wire from Washington.

However, on Saturday, Churchill diverged from his routine by conferring with Cordell Hull, United States Secretary of State, Dr. Eduard Benes, President of the Czechoslavakian refugee government, T. V. Soong, Chungking Foreign Minister, and Herbert V. Evatt, Australian Minister of External Affairs.

AMERICA FAILS TO MEET BIG DEMAND FOR SEAMEN

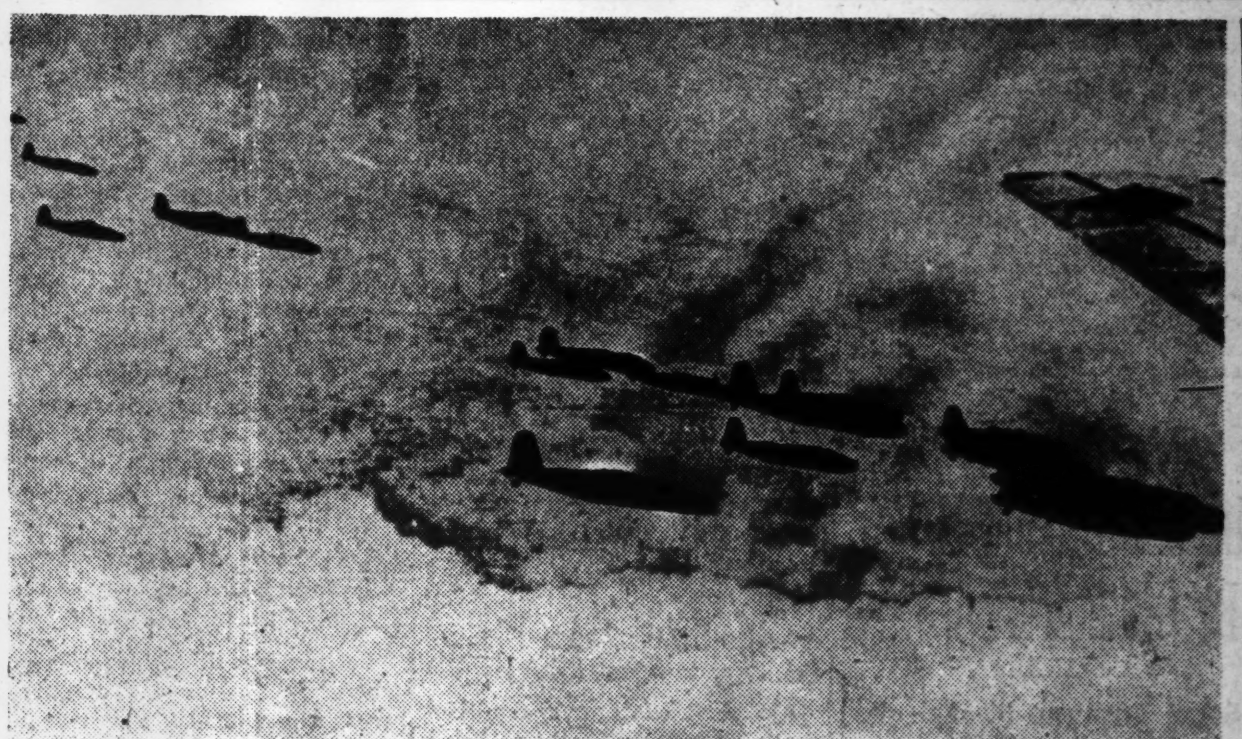
Decides to Enlarge Training Facilities and Mobilize Retired Sailors

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, May 15.—In face of the increasing shortage of seamen, the United States Government has decided to enlarge seamen's training facilities and at the same time mobilize retired sailors, according to Washington reports reaching here.

All mercantile marine schools and seamen's training institutes are crammed to the limit of capacity in efforts to train seamen to meet the shortage.

However, reports indicate that the increasing demand is not being sufficiently met with, especially in the cases of pilots, engineers, cooks and so forth.



FORMATION OF JAPANESE PLANES HEADING FOR AN ENEMY BASE
(Photograph by Courtesy of the Press Section of the Japanese Expeditionary Forces in China. Passed by the War Ministry)

Nauru Isle Occupied by Japanese, Vital Base to Conduct Offensive

Islanders Freed From Enemy's Yoke Find Paradise Today as Peace and Contentment Prevail Under Guidance of Asian Brethren

Nauru Island, just a fraction of a degree south from the equatorial line and once an important link in the enemy's pre-war encirclement ring, since occupation by the Imperial Navy Forces on August 28 of last year, has been transformed into one of Japan's foremost outposts of offensive for the destruction of America, Britain and Holland.

The present conditions on the island are graphically described by Mr. Kikuchi of the Navy Press Corps, who found the 1,700 native inhabitants and the 500 Chinese on the island, freed from the yoke of despotic rule under Australia, pushing the reconstruction of the island under the benign protection of the Imperial Forces. The islanders, fully awakened to their pride as people of Greater East Asia and burning with hope for the future, place full confidence and are collaborating wholeheartedly.

Though situated almost on the Equator, Nauru Island is little visited by the usual southern squalls. Therefore, once in every few years, the island suffers from the excruciating torrid heat of rainless days.

Four-fifths of the island is covered by rich deposits of phosphorus, and copra is also produced in great abundance.

The Australian Government sought to suppress the native inhabitants by pompous display of motor-cars, radios and other superficial manifestations of materialistic civilization. Religion served as one means of cowardly suppression of the native inhabitants.

Under a policy of intimidation and cajolery, Australia exploited the island to her heart's content, and the native inhabitants degraded into mere puppets, deprived of all hope, virility or desire for labor.

However, the Imperial forces which swept the island clean of all baneful Australian influences, last summer launched on the difficult task of awakening the islanders to the consciousness as a people of Greater East Asia and to instill hope and ambition into the dispirited, gloomy hearts of the native inhabitants.

Staunch, immovable defense against enemy counter-attacks, the development of industries, pacification of the native inhabitants, all these are being undertaken side by side and making good progress.

In autumn last year, a committee for maintenance of peace and order was organized and September 26 saw the opening of the Japanese language school.

Phosphorus mining equipment and the harbor facilities destroyed by the fires of war are rapidly been restored through the efforts of the islanders and everywhere one witnesses harmonious cooperation of the inhabitants of Nauru Island with the men of the Imperial Forces.

REICH PLANES SINK THREE SUBMARINES

Two Undersea Craft Also Seriously Damaged

Three anti-Axis submarines were sunk and two others seriously damaged by the German warplanes that have recently intensified their operations against enemy submarines, it was announced by the German military authorities, according to a Domei report from Berlin on Saturday.

JAPANESE AIRCRAFT BOMB PORT MORESBY

Other Bases in New Guinea Also Hit

Domei

LISBON, May 15.—Anti-Axis Military Headquarters in the Southwestern Pacific announced yesterday that a crack squadron of the Japanese air force effected devastating bombings on Port Moresby and other anti-Axis bases in New Guinea, states Melbourne dispatches reaching here today.

The Japanese bombings yesterday admittedly covered a large area, the attack this time being one of the fiercest experienced recently. They were reportedly, made by bombers of an extremely powerful type. As usual, however, no report was made of the damages suffered by the anti-Axis side.

COAL MINERS IN U.S. TOLD TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS

Union Authorities Expected to Refuse to Comply With Government's Order

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, May 15.—With the term of truce of the United States coal mine strike expiring on May 18, the American War Labor Board on Saturday ordered the United Mine Workers of America as well as coal-mine owners to resume negotiations for the revision of contracts concerning wages.

As has already been reported, the Washington Government is frantically trying to curry the favor of the laborers by agreeing to the six-day-a-week labor, the control of rising living expenses and the rectification of unfair rationing, etc. But it is considered highly problematical whether the Union authorities will resume negotiations with the mine owners in compliance with the Government's instructions.

SPELLMAN BARES OBJECT ON ARRIVAL IN ISTANBUL

Says Roosevelt Sent Him to Comfort Troops; Denies Mission Is Political

The Archbishop of New York Francis J. Spellman, President Roosevelt's special envoy who has been dispatched on an undisclosed mission, arrived in Istanbul on Friday, according to a Domei report from Istanbul on Saturday. During an interview with the Turkish press Spellman declared that he was sent by the American President solely for the purpose of comforting the American troops at the war front and was not dispatched on a political mission.

Spellman is scheduled to leave Istanbul on Sunday for a brief sojourn in Ankara, and will thence proceed to Syria, India and Chungking, the dispatch added.

NIPPON DIPLOMATS CONFER WITH TANI

Meeting Called in Nanking for Early Realization of New China Policy

Domei

NANKING, May 15.—"With the spirit similar to that possessed by the Imperial Japanese soldiers fighting at the front, let us do our utmost in the diplomatic field toward the accomplishment of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere."

Thus declared Masayuki Tani, new Japanese Ambassador to China, on Saturday morning when he addressed the officials of the Japanese Embassy, Army and Navy officers connected with the Embassy and economic advisers at his official residence for the first time since his arrival here.

The gist of his address follows:

"My mission as the Japanese Ambassador in this grave international situation is to accelerate and thoroughly execute Japan's new policy toward China.

"Ever since Japan introduced her new policy toward China at the end of last year, the political power of the National Government has been considerably strengthened and the restoration of economy is also achieving a steady progress.

"Unless Japan closely cooperates with China to realize the Co-Prosperity Sphere, it is well-nigh impossible to successfully terminate the War of Greater East Asia. The Japanese Government is firmly resolved to first solve the Chinese problem because it is the most vital thing for the establishment of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere. In fact, under the prevailing international situation, the problem of China cannot be left unattended even for a day.

"Therefore, I am firmly determined to do my best toward the solution of this issue, with your able assistance."

Calls Diplomats for Parley

In order to realize Japan's new policy toward China at the earliest possible moment, Masayuki Tani, newly appointed Japanese Ambassador to China, following his arrival in Nanking, will call a conference of Japanese diplomatic envoys stationed at various places in China, according to a Domei dispatch from Nanking on Saturday.

At the conference, which was scheduled to start from Sunday, it is reported, Ambassador Tani will confer with Japanese Minister to Peking Major-General Kiyonobu Shiozawa, Minister to Mengchiang Major-General Tamio Iwasaki, Minister to Shanghai Akiyoshi Tajiri, and Ministers Tateki Horinouchi and Nakamura.

Although the agenda of the conference is unrevealed it is generally presumed that such questions as basic preparations for the execution of agreements concerning Japan's abolition of extraterritoriality, and the transfer of the right of imposing taxes to the National Government, which forms the first step toward the relinquishment of extraterritorial rights, etc., will be thoroughly discussed by the conferees.

Hata, Chu, See Tani

General Shunroku Hata, Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Expeditionary Forces in China, made a courtesy visit to Masayuki Tani, newly appointed Japanese Ambassador to China, at the latter's official residence in Nanking, at 2 p.m. on Saturday, reports Domei.

Foreign Minister Chu Min-yi also made a courtesy visit to Ambassador Tani at his official residence at 4 o'clock on the afternoon of the same day.

CHUNGKING FORCES IN HUNAN SMASHED BY JAPANESE UNITS

127th, 128th Corps of 43rd Division Completely Annihilated in Operation

RETREAT CUT OFF

16,000 Enemy Troops Crushed Since Commencement of Summer Offensive

Crack units of the Imperial Forces sweeping northward in the Hunan region annihilated the 127th and 128th Corps of the enemy's 43rd Division and encircled a portion of the 118th Corps of the 50th Division, a force of about 2,000, near the vicinities of Mengkisze, Shunlin Station and two other places in the period of three days from May 12 to 14, states a Domei dispatch from the Hunan front.

The results obtained were as follows:

The number of enemy dead left behind: 650.

Prisoners: 330, including five officers.

Goods seized: 2 trench mortars, 18 heavy and light machine-guns, 120 rifles, 650 hand grenades, 435 horses.

Caught in Vise

The Japanese southern and northern driving units came in contact with each other in the northern section of Sichai on the Hupei front at 7 a.m. on Friday, thereby completely cutting off the enemy's retreat. The already abandoned Kungwan, their key base, and also their positions along a 200-kilometer line connecting Ssuchiai and Shihtzutan are now being battered at from the rear, according to a Mainichi report from Central China on May 15.

Again subjected to our surprise attack from the Yangtze River in the north, the enemy attempted to flee toward the upper reaches of the Yangtze River under cover of darkness. Checked by our forces, however, the enemy forces are now wandering about in the encirclement network.

In an area north of Sichai, on the Hupeh provincial border area, about 4,000 Chungking troops belonging to the 55th Division have been caught up by the Japanese Forces, while other detachments on Friday dealt an annihilating blow to the 1,000 Chungking remnants belonging to the 121st Division and the 185th Division in the vicinity of Liuchiatan.

Meanwhile, about 2,000 Chungking troops in the Kuanyinssu sector are also on the verge of annihilation, and 1,000 Chungking troops of the 55th Division have been entrapped at a point three kilometers southeast of Liuchiatan.

Foe Loses 16,000 Troops

At the start of the present Summer Offensive Operation, the Japanese Forces have annihilated four enemy divisions forming the main body of the 29th Group Army along Tungting Lake. The subsequent war results as achieved in the encirclement campaign in a sector south of Anhsiang and Nanshien, and those scored by our mobile units over Tungting Lake include 5,190 enemy bodies left on the battle fields, and nine pom-poms, four heavy machine guns, four light machine guns and 718 rifles captured, states a Mainichi report.

As a result, an aggregate loss of nearly 16,000 troops has been inflicted on the Chungking forces.

The aggregate war results achieved up to the 12th include 14,068 bodies left on the battlefields, 2,300 war prisoners and such war trophies as four cannons, two anti-tank guns, 24 trench mortars, nine pom-poms, 39 heavy machine guns, 153 light machine guns, 1,471 rifles and large quantities of other arms and ammunition.

ANGLO-AMERICAN AIRMEN KILL 14 NON-COMBATANTS

Two Italian Cities Subjected to Indiscriminate Bombing By Enemy

Fourteen persons were killed and 40 others wounded in Sassari, Sardinia, and three persons were killed in Santa Catarina, Sicily, in the recent indiscriminate bombings made on the two Italian cities by the ruthless anti-Axis fliers, it was announced by the Italian military authorities on Saturday, according to a Domei dispatch from Rome.

LANDING IN EUROPE BY ENEMY UNLIKELY

Axis Positions Solid—Casablanca Formula to Remain Unchanged

By HIDEJI TAKADA
Domei Staff Writer

British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, accompanied by many military and naval experts, arrived at Washington on May 11. This fifth Roosevelt-Churchill talk is being attended this time by Marshal Sir Archibald Wavell, Chief of General Staff General Alan Brooke, Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Dudley Pound as well as by Lord Beaverbrook and Federic Leathers. Canadian Premier MacKenzie King, Australian Foreign Minister Herbert Evatt, Chungking envoy T. V. Soong are also expected to attend the conference which is expected to discuss the question of strengthening the Pacific front. It seems certain that the details of the next operation, political maneuvers toward the Soviet Union and re-examination of the Casablanca formula will be mooted.

Now that the situation in North Africa has come to a close with the evacuation of the German-Italian forces, the Soviet Union is naturally looking forward to the formation of the second front in Europe. However, in view of the fact that the Axis positions in Europe are too formidable and as Roosevelt is very anxious to solve outstanding political issues with the U.S.S.R. it does not appear likely that the landing operation will be made by the Anglo-American forces till guarantees are obtained from the Soviet Union in regard to its future attitude.

Britain, while desiring a rapid development of the war situation in Europe and the right of intervention in European affairs is at the same time well aware of the lack of its own strength to destroy the German defenses. Therefore, no immediate launching of the second front operation seems possible for the time being.

Although President Roosevelt is anxious to adjust the political relations with the Soviet Union before launching the next military operation, Premier Stalin will certainly take no orders from the United States or Britain. Despite the efforts of the President's special envoy, Joseph Davies, Premier Stalin is not likely to attend personally the Washington conference. In fact, due to the existence of a disagreement even between the leaders of the Anglo-American nations since the Soviet-Polish rift, complete agreement of all powers at Washington remains extremely doubtful.

As General Wavell, commander-in-chief of the British forces in India, as well as other military and naval experts is present with Churchill, it is clear that the Pacific operations will be taken up in consultation with T. V. Soong and Australian Foreign Minister Evatt. Despite the public demand in America, the revision of the Casablanca formula is considered improbable as Britain still insists on the Europe-first principle. The fundamental principles will, therefore, remain as decided at Casablanca although some modifications may be made in order to satisfy the representatives of Chungking and Australia.

Beauty Permeates Philippine Literature

(Continued From Page 4)

by the natives themselves in their own dialects.

New Form Introduced

Later, a new form of drama called the "Sarasuela" came into vogue. It is a three-act melodrama, and among its most celebrated writers are Cornelio Hilado and Elberto Gumban. The "Model Woman," written by the former, a Visayan, in 1878 is performed mostly on the islands of Panay and Negros. The masterpiece of the latter, the "Life of Yesterday" is one which even modern theatre-goers would appreciate. At first, the Catholic priests employed the drama for the purpose of converting the natives, but later the natives used the same means to revive their nationalism to fight the invaders.

On the other hand Pascual Pobrete's "Patriotism," Aurelio Torentino's "Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow," Marino's "East Asia" and Fernardo Buiser Aquino's "Christ Abducted" are well-known patriotic plays which denounce the morale of the Catholic priests.

Juan Suleta de Angeles' "The Love-affair of a Hybrid" and Vicente Satou's "Black and White" both of which deal with the problem of race, mixture, are among the notable social plays of the islands.

Though we have a large number of distinguished playwrights in the Philippines, employing the various dialects of the islands like the Visayan, the Tagalog, the Ilocano, the Pampagan and the Pangesinan, they are all suffering under one great weakness namely, the play written in one dialect cannot be enacted in another area where a different dialect is spoken.

NIPPON TEXTBOOKS MADE FOR SCHOOLS IN CELEBES

Conversational Japanese Readers to Be Distributed Early in June

Domei

MACASSAR, May 16.—With a view to facilitating the propagation of the Japanese language among the native inhabitants, the Naval Administration in the Celebes has compiled "A Textbook of Conversational Japanese" adapted to local conditions from Volumes 1, 2, and 3 of the "Conversational Japanese Readers" compiled by the Japanese Ministry of Education, which have been used here hitherto.

The printing of the new book will be begun in early June and distributed among the schools of Celebes.

Following the publication of this textbook, the authorities here contemplate the publication of supplementary textbooks on Japanese history and geography.

LENINGRAD MENACED BY GERMAN ADVANCE

Soviet Positions Blasted—Red Star Says Defense Line Pierced

Domei

STOCKHOLM, May 15.—Leningrad is reportedly being menaced by the German forces, according to reliable information available here.

It is reported that German artillery units are fiercely bombarding the Soviet positions on the Leningrad defense line.

The Red Star, organ of the Red Army, stated that "German troops had succeeded in piercing a Soviet defense position, thus endangering the city of Leningrad."

Meanwhile, reports from the front reveal that the Soviet forces had attempted a landing at an inlet north of Temryuk, but the Germans have sunk 28 Soviet vessels fully laden with troops.

In the Kuban sector, crack German forces have succeeded in capturing important enemy strategic points, following severe fighting. In this battle, some 1,500 Soviet troops are said to have been killed, and a similar number of soldiers were made prisoner by the Germans. In addition, large quantities of war trophies were captured.

The D.N.B. News Agency discloses that German forces have thrust into the central Donetz sector as well as the southern zone of Lake Ladoga. At both of these places, the report says, the Germans occupied a number of enemy pill-boxes and infantry positions.

Luftwaffe Raids S.W. Britain

The British Air Ministry announced yesterday that a squadron of German planes again made an appearance over the southwestern section of the British mainland, according to Lisbon dispatches to Domei relaying reports from London. Also, air-raid alarms were sounded in London but the German planes did not show up in the vicinity of the British capital.

Cuban Envoy in Kuibishev

Subsequent to the opening of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and Cuba, Dr. Aurelio F. Concheco, the first Cuban Minister to the Soviet Union, arrived in Kuibishev on May 12, according to reports to Domei from Kuibishev.

Conscription in Serbia

BELGRADE.—A decree has been issued here for the conscription of the 1908 to 1911 classes for labor service making in all now 14 classes which have been called up in Serbia.

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The Past Week in Review

Tojo Returns From Manila

Having accomplished the object of his visit to the Philippines, Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo returned to Japan on May 8. At a cabinet conference on May 11, Prime Minister Tojo stated that the present condition and future prospects of the Philippines were just as he had expected them to be.

The Prime Minister's trip to the Philippines, which followed on his visits to the National Government of China and the Manchoukuo Government, has a great meaning from the viewpoint of world history. It marked a very long step toward the construction of the Philippines as a component part of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere.

Terrific Battle Rages On Foggy Attu Island

Taking advantage of the thick banks of fogs that swirled round the bleak Aleutian islands, powerful American forces started to land on the island of Attu on May 12. However their intention was forestalled by the Japanese garrisons, and a terrific battle is now going on.

America since a long time ago has been planning to take back Attu and Kiska islands of the Aleutian Group under Japan's occupation, gradually reinforcing its troops in the Aleutian area and pushing ahead its base from island to island. On May 12, taking advantage of the fog and under the protection of intensive warship bombardment and plane bombing, powerful enemy forces started to land on Attu.

In spite of a numerical inferiority, the Japanese Forces on guard launched a brave attack against the raiders with the result that a fierce battle is now raging amidst the fog there.

Nippon Army Occupies Buthidaung in Burma

The occupation of Buthidaung in the upper reaches of the Mayu River in Burma by Japanese Army Forces on May 8 was announced by the Imperial Headquarters early last week.

Following the official revelation made by the headquarters of the British Expeditionary Forces in India on May 9, admitting the withdrawal of the British units in the Buthidaung zone to points west and northwest of Buthidaung, successive reports confirming the British retreat have been made by various news mediums. The British Broadcasting Corporation said that under the menace of the Japanese Forces that have captured key-points along the Buthidaung-Maungdaw highway and are threatening to smash British positions in this area, the British forces in this area were forced to retire.

Chosen, Taiwan People Can Volunteer in Navy

A new system for permitting the people of Chosen and Taiwan to volunteer in the Imperial Japanese Navy as decided by the Government at its Cabinet meeting on May 11. Preparations have already been made so that the preliminary training for those who desire to become special volunteers can be commenced during this fiscal year.

All Taiwan on May 12 hailed this new announcement. Following the performance of the Naval March, a joint statement regarding the new decision of the Government by the Government-General of Taiwan and the Takao Naval Defense Headquarters was broadcast throughout the Island.

Likewise in Chosen, the people received the inspiring news with renewed determination to serve the State more thoroughly by offering their younger generation for service in the Imperial Navy.

4 Enemy Divisions Crushed in Hunan

The Imperial Forces which began advancing on Hunan Province in the first part of May, have annihilated about four enemy divisions on the shores of Lake Tungting, it was announced in a communique issued last week by the Headquarters of the Japanese Expeditionary Forces in Central China.

Following this annihilation campaign, the Japanese Forces surrounded five more enemy divisions in the area north of Tsinshih, and are now pushing annihilating operations. The army of the National Government of China is also cooperating for the annihilation of the common enemy.

Independence Committee Established in Burma

Marking a new epoch in the history of Burma, the Independence Preparatory Committee was inaugurated formally on May 8 in the presence of Lieutenant-General Masakazu Kawabe, Supreme Commander of the Japanese Army Forces in Burma, and political and financial leaders including Premier Ba Maw of Burma.

In the course of the inaugural ceremony, Ba Maw handed certificates of appointments to the members of the committee who were seated around him.

In an address at the inaugural ceremony, Premier Ba Maw, quoting Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo's statement promising independence to Burma, expressed his deep gratitude toward the sincere support of Japan and urged self-sacrificing efforts on the part of the committee members.

Bank of Japan Makes Loan to Mengchiang

Making another move toward the establishment of a Greater East Asia monetary sphere with Tokyo as the pivotal center, the Bank of Japan has arranged to give credit to the Bank of Mengchiang to the amount of ¥100,000,000. A contract to this effect was signed on May 8 between Toyotaro Yuki, governor of the Bank of Japan, and Hisayoshi Munakata, president of the Bank of Mengchiang, at the head office of the Japanese central bank.

The terms of the contract are that the Bank of Mengchiang should be entitled to loans from the Bank of Japan within the next five years up to ¥50,000,000; that the Bank of Mengchiang should redeem these loans at once or in instalments within five years after the date of the signing of the contract; that the period during which the Bank of Mengchiang may borrow and the period of redemption may be prolonged by consultation between the two banks and that the Bank of Menchiang should be entitled to loans from the Bank of Japan on the ordinary bill account basis to an additional amount of ¥50,000,000.

Chinese Ambassador Tsai Arrives in Capital

The newly-appointed Chinese Ambassador to Japan Tsai Pei arrived in Tokyo on May 13 from Nanking. The new envoy was welcomed by a large assembly of distinguished persons, including General Nobuyuki Abe, former Prime Minister, Ryutaro Nagai, who was one of Japan's special envoys to the National Government of China last year, Foreign Vice-Minister Shunichi Matsumoto Greater East Asiatic Affairs Vice-Minister Kumaichi Yamamoto, and others.

Accompanying the Ambassador were Wang Wen-lung, nephew of Chu Min-yi, Foreign Minister of the National Government, and Hsu Chih-lung, son of Hsu Hsui-chih, vice-president of the North China Telegraph Company. The two youths are both 18 years old and have come to study in Japan.

N. African War Nears End

Despite the heroic stand made by the Axis forces against overwhelming odds, the Tunisian campaign is drawing to an end with the German-Italian troops withdrawing from Bizerta and Tunisia. The Anglo-American propaganda machinery has lost no time in making the most of this situation and in circulating talk of a second front.

Nevertheless, as the Axis High Command has announced, the chief aim of the North African campaign has been to consolidate the fortifications of Europe at the sacrifice of the North African expeditionary forces. In the six months of continued resistance there the Axis has been able to achieve complete fortification of Southern Europe. This being so, the situation in North Africa will have no important effect on the issue of the European War as a whole despite what the United States and Britain may say.

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	Chopin:	Palonaise Fantasie As-dur Op. 61
4.	Debussy:	Prelude-Sarebande-Toccata

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MANY CONTRIBUTING TO INTERNEE RELIEF

Funds to Buy Comfort for Japanese in Enemy Lands Surpass Expectations

Relief funds, now being widely solicited for the purpose of comforting the 570,000 Japanese internees in enemy countries, are accumulating rapidly with prospects of exceeding several folds the expected sum. The Committee for Japanese Residents in Enemy Countries in charge of the raising of the funds is exceedingly gratified with the results, states the Asahi.

The funds will be used to purchase tea, miso, shoyu and other articles for sending to the Japanese in the enemy countries and the Foreign Office, Japan Red Cross Society and the Committee for Japanese Residents in Enemy Countries are now conferring on the matter.

In Tokyo, funds are being solicited with donations above 10 sen from each household, but in view of the large number of contributions of ¥1, ¥2 and more, the sum of ¥150,000 allotted for Tokyo is expected to be surpassed several times.

Tunnel Through Andes

In order to facilitate a transportation system between Argentina and Chile, the Chilean Government announced a draft for the construction of a gigantic tunnel through the rocky core of the Andes Mountains for both railway and automobile traffic, according to a Buenos Aires dispatch to Domei which relayed a wire from Santiago. An approximate expenditure of 20-million pesos will be necessary for the construction, it is said.

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Singapore Assignment

Ominous signs of war filled the Pacific horizon. Mr. Saburo Kurusu had flown on his special mission to Washington in an effort to present Japan's last offer of conciliation. But in Singapore Sir Robert Brooke-Popham rushed over to Manila to confer with Admiral Thomas C. Hart, Chief of the United States Asiatic Fleet, General Douglas MacArthur, Commander-in-Chief of the Philippines Army and Francis B. Sayre, U.S. High Commissioner to the Philippines. This was Britain's answer to Japan's gesture of peace.

Singapore was in the headlines of the world. Pan-American Airways, ambitious American airline, stretched out from Manila, extending their transpacific service to the southernmost tip of Asia.

Shortly after Pan-American Airways had established a branch office in Singapore, Manager Owen Johnson was faced with a problem. The New York office had ordered a photograph of the Singapore Airport which was to be displayed at the Broadway office in New York for publicity purposes.

However, British officials refused to allow Pan-American Airways to photograph the Airport since it was one of the fortified zones. No matter how Manager Johnson argued, the British authorities were adamant.

That night Johnson was in the Raffles Hotel lounge looking unhappy. Asked what was the matter, the Pan-American official related his predicament.

"That's easy," one of the crowd spoke up.

"Go around the corner of the Hotel to Nakajima's photo shop—they have pictures of the Singapore Airport on display."

The Pan-American manager rushed over to Nakajima's and sure enough he found all the pictures of the Singapore Airport that he needed. It seemed that Nakajima, Japanese photographer and one of the best in Singapore, was official photographer for the airport.

For a long time, Singapore had been a Mecca for American journalists, magazine writers and political experts. Some had stayed for one or two weeks but the prize of them all was John Gunther who stayed overnight in Singapore and wrote a chapter in his book "Inside Asia." In Singapore, his volume was held in ridicule because of its inaccuracies. Gunther attempted to capitalise on his successful "Inside Europe" but the overnight stop in Singapore, drunk so the story goes, did not do his reputation any good.

As war clouds gathered, the pilgrimage to Singapore began. Frank Cervasi, Italian-American writer for Colliers magazine who had been kicked out of Italy because of a derogatory article concerning Mussolini, was not very popular in Singapore. Even the British authorities did not trust him because of his Italian name, which was particularly amusing because he was a rabid anti-Fascist.

Victor Keen of the New York Herald-Tribune came down from Shanghai but left in disgust because the whisky in Singapore was bad and the war did not start on schedule. Leland Stowe white-haired war correspondent for the New York Evening Post, stayed long enough to have a sukiyaki dinner with us. Dennis McAvoy, who had lived many years in Tokyo, came as a correspondent for the Chicago Times.

Martha Gellhorn, wife of Ernest Hemmingway, had a special assignment from Collier's magazine. Relman Morin, former Associated Press chief in Tokyo, A.T. Steele of the Chicago Daily News, John Morris of United Press and many others passed through.

Among the articles by American writers which startled staid Singapore officialdom were the ones by the Carl Mydans, Shelley Smith team of Time and Life magazines and the one by Martha Gellhorn of Collier's Magazine.

Said the Life Magazine's special Singapore issue on July 21, 1941:

"If Singapore falls, the Philippines, the Netherlands Indies Australia, India, China and Africa fall too."

However, the statement in Life that "Chinese trade, whites govern, natives labor" was the crux of the prewar Singapore problem.

"White men built Singapore but it is the Chinese who really make a living out of it. Some 2,000,000 Chinese are the shopkeepers, small businessmen and rubber strippers of Singapore, and the tin-mine workers of the hinterland.

"The Chinese started coming in 1930 from South China to work the tin mines of Malaya. Many have gone home with their fortunes and many still think they will go home some day. They do not, however, contribute at all to Britain's war effort. They feel scant loyalty to Singapore and Malaya."

Martha Gellhorn bitterly criticised Singapore Europeans' Hollywoodish luxury. She pointed out that the British officers looked beautiful in their trim uniforms.

"But when the mud of the swamps and jungles splatters their pretty uniforms, will they still look as beautiful?"

This created a furore in Singapore military circles when Collier's Magazine appeared in Malaya.

The photographing of pill-boxes which cluttered up Singapore's streets was officially prohibited. But Harrison Forman, N.B.C. commentator and special writer for the New York Times, sent the pictures to the Times which calmly printed the pictures of the pill-boxes, much to the consternation of British officialdom.

I had lunch with Cecil Brown, Columbia Broadcasting Company commentator, just a week before the outbreak of war. He was bitterly resentful of the manner in which British censors had deleted his broadcasts.

Later, I learned that he had been "kicked out" of Singapore and completed his broadcasts from Batavia. He and Martin Agronsky, N.B.C. representative who flew to Singapore from the Middle East after the outbreak of war, were in the "bad books" of the Singapore censors throughout.

On his return to the United States, Brown wrote a scathing article condemning the attitude of British officials in Singapore before and during the war. He went so far as to say that the fall of Singapore served them right.

On the eve of the war, there were only Harold Guard, United Press manager at Singapore Darrel G. Berrigan, his assistant, Yates McDaniel of Associated Press, Tillman Durdin of the New York Times, Kenneth Selby-Walker of Reuters and Moseley and Gallagher, two correspondents for London newspapers. There was also a representative of the Australian Associated Press.

Mosley, cousin of British Fascist Sir Oswald Moseley, was the author of several books. And since he had spent some time in the United States, particularly Hollywood, he and I had some interesting conversations.

The Sunday just before the outbreak of war, Moseley invited me to have lunch with him in his apartment atop the Cathay Building. He had just come out from the Middle East where he had covered the Libyan campaign for the London Daily Mail. He told me that he had wired his head-office to be transferred back to the Egyptian front. They told him to stay on in Singapore but he was so determined that after three cablegrams, London finally gave him permission to return to Libya.

"I don't think that there will be a war in the Pacific—at least not for another six months" was his calm statement. I wished him a pleasant journey. He, no doubt had invited me to lunch in order to find out if I knew that action was impending.

Japanese correspondents in Singapore, just before the war were Jun Ninomiya of the Asahi Shimbun, Takashi Kaite of Domei Tsushin-sha and Katsutaro Suganuma of the Mainichi-Nichi Nichi newspapers.

Since the reciprocal freezing of assets by Japan and Britain and the United States in June, Singapore, wholly dependent on trade, had become a deserted port. In addition, the British authorities effected an order that news cables could be sent only in English and consequently I placed myself at the disposal of the three Japanese correspondents. I tried to serve as a liaison between them, the foreign correspondents and the British authorities.

In addition to my work at the Herald, I had taken over the editing of the English news bulletins issued by the Eastern News Service. In order to keep in touch with Japan's official policies, I regularly visited the Japanese Consul-General, Ken Tsurumi, whose long experience with newspapermen in Shanghai as Embassy Press Attache, benefited both the editorial policies of the Herald and the Eastern News Service.

From time to time, interesting news and information were passed on to the Japanese correspondents and the Japanese Consul-General since nearly every evening found me at Raffles or Adelphi with one or another of the visiting American correspondents.

Since the very first, I had kept in touch with the British Ministry of Information, Singapore's Department of Information and the new Services Publicity Office. The last named was formed with the arrival of the first Australian troops to Singapore. The office whose function it was to keep foreign newspapermen informed, was in charge of Lieutenant-Commander John Proud, an Australian with a Reserve Commission in the British Navy. An ex-newspaperman, Proud was most helpful.

Perhaps the following incident will give an example of his attitude toward the Japanese Press.

After landing at Singapore, the Australians, for the most part, were sent north to the Kuala Lumpur, Seremban and Malacca areas. The Services Publicity Office arranged for a trip north for the foreign and local Press. Somehow, the Japanese newspapermen were not invited. Upon inquiries, I learned that Vice-Admiral Layton, chief of the Publicity Bureau, had issued orders that only British and American newspapermen were allowed to make the tour—which disqualified local Chinese, Indian and Eurasian correspondents and, of course, the Japanese.

Commander Proud, after informing me of the official orders, added:

"If you happened to be drinking a glass of beer at the Malacca Rest House (Hotel) on Sunday, you might meet some of the American newspapermen. I don't think Layton would have any objections to that."

I caught the hint and due arrangements were made. Two days later on Sunday, I was at the Malacca Rest House having a glass of beer. Sure enough I met Proud and his party of foreign newspapermen.

"We are just going to the General Headquarters of the A.I.F Want to come along?"

With that, I joined the party which then went on a tour of inspection of Australian camps near Malacca. Ending at the Malacca High School where the divisional headquarters were located, an Australian artillery officer gave a brief talk on the defense and strength of the British forces now that the Australians were in Malaya.

The Press conference ended rather abruptly when the Australian officer noticed me in the crowd. It seemed that the Straits Times Representative had called his attention to my nationality.

That evening all of the correspondents went out into the town to see the Australians drinking at the bars, invading private homes and desecrating Chinese temples. At the cabaret, over glasses of beer, an Australian sergeant boasted how he had chased three pretty Chinese girls through the streets of Malacca.

"When I grabbed them, they sure screamed," he laughingly remarked.

At one of the Chinese temples, Australians went up to the alter and walked off with the incense burner.

These were but a few of the incidents which caused Chinese to become bitter against the Australians.

One of the American correspondents asked them.

"Do you like Malaya?"

The Digger answered back:

"Of course not. They didn't tell us where we were going when the transport sailed from Sydney. We thought we were going to Libya and instead they make us sweat here in the jungle building roads and fortifications.

That summed up the general attitude of the Australian soldier. When he complained too much, the pay was increased and that angered the British and Scottish troops.

Even in the highest circles, this antagonism between the British and Australians existed.

One night in Raffles Hotel, I was present when Major-General L. V. Bond, Lieutenant-General Percival's predecessor as General Officer Commanding the British Forces in Malaya, invited Major-General Gordon Bennett, Commander-in-Chief of the Australian forces in Malaya, to dinner. Bond was dressed, as was the custom, in military dress uniform. Gordon Bennett arrived in field uniform.

WAR CLOUDS OVER THE PACIFIC
CHAPTER V
BY TATSUKI FUJII
Percival
Brooke-Popham
Layton

When Bond called attention to the fact that all the guests were dressed in formal uniforms, Cordon Bennett replied;

"When Australian soldiers leave home to fight a war, they don't have time to pack a dress uniform like the British soldiers."

This was the beginning of the British-Australian animosity which permeated throughout the ranks and which finally resulted in Gordon Bennett leaving Percival while the siege of Singapore was at its height.

And the British and Australians were not the only ones that disagreed in Singapore. As war clouds became more threatening, the Americans moved right into Singapore. From Manila, they sent liaison officers to co-operate with the British but in reality these American Army and Navy officers were agents to keep a watch on the British.

As one American officer told me;

"I wouldn't trust an Englishman as far as you could throw the Empire State Building."

And all of these U.S. Army and Navy men brought their uniforms—just in case. These Americans stayed at Raffles, drank freely of British hospitality but kept a good watch on what the British were doing—and not doing—with regards to defense.

"If war ever comes to Singapore, we Americans are not going to fight to save the British Empire." This was the remark made by a Chief Petty Officer in the U. S. Navy.

Along about June, the United States sent about 100 Curtiss P-40 planes to Chungking via Rangoon. And shortly afterwards, ground crew and pilots for the Lend-Lease aircraft, began to stream through Singapore.

All this was officially a secret. And yet about 30 of these reckless American soldiers of fortune, ripped Singapore wide-open for ten days. On most of these escapades, Darrell Berrigan of the United Press and Harrison Forman of the National Broadcasting Corporation acted as guides.

The American Volunteer Group was asked to be careful of spies. Speaking of spies, it was just about this time that the Singapore police trailed me for about a week.

Every morning when I went to the office, a taxi followed me and parked right alongside my motor-car. And throughout the day wherever I happened to go, the same taxi followed until I returned home at midnight. My Malai driver told me that it was a Chinese detective from the Special Branch—my driver even ate his meals with the driver of the taxi.

But it annoyed me no end and finally one evening, I took the wheel of the motor-car and gave the taxi a dizzy chase through the streets of Singapore's Chinatown. After 40 minutes of fast-driving, I finally lost the detective who never followed me again.

On speaking of this experience with others, I found that many prominent Japanese were similarly trailed by Special Branch detectives.

British authorities were spy-crazy and while they suspected many Japanese, no one was apprehended.

The real spies in the truest sense were these American military agents for they ferreted out the deplorable weakness of Singapore's defenses. When American newspapermen tried to cable the truth to the United States, the censors red-penciled all their cables, which was very foolish because the Americans merely took these cables to Manila and filed their cables there.

The stupidity of British censors was a standing joke with the American correspondents. The Americans all used to file their cables late at night after 11:30 because they found out that the British censor went home at midnight and in the last half-hour rarely read the cables because he was so anxious to get home to his young wife.

Thus as American newspapermen continue[illegible] scheme and outwit the puzzled Press censors in Singapore, British authorities grew more angry. It was an open secret among the American, Australian and other foreign newspaper correspondents that the censors were incompetent.

Harrison Forman, the National Broadcasting Corporation broadcaster, was made to submit his broadcasts 36 hours in advance—which sometimes "killed" his news before he could get on the air. So, he usually filled his broadcasts with lots of inconsequential descriptions.

"The British have the greatest propaganda weapon in the American Press and Radio—and simply because they are afraid that the correspondents will tell the truth, they block us in every possible way."

These were Forman's own words just before he left for Hongkong disgusted with the British censors.

New York Times' Hallet Abend had a bitter quarrel with the Press censors in Singapore. Abend was so angry about the treatment which he received in Singapore that he wrote a special chapter about it in his latest book on the Far East—but the chapter was crudely cut out by the censors when the book was put on sale at the Kelly & Walsh bookstore.

In an interview which appeared in the Singapore Herald, Abend declared;

"In all my years in Japan and China, I must admit that Japanese censorship, while strict, was fair where British censorship here in Singapore is simply impossible."

Hallett Abend came back to the Far East twice afterwards but he refused to come to Singapore. He usually wrote from Manila which many other American newspapermen made their base for news of the Far East.

The story of United Press in Singapore was one continuous battle with the British authorities. Some time before, Roy Howard of the Scripps-Howard newspapers came to Singapore and decided that United Press must extend its service in this vital section of Asia. John Morris came down from Shanghai to negotiate but the British authorities refused to allow the United Press to come in.

Finally, angry protests were made in Washington and London by Roy Howard among his influential political friends and the United Press was permitted to come into Singapore but on certain conditions. One of the conditions was that the messages from Manila must be relayed through the British Government wireless station—which meant that the news was delayed long enough for Reuters to break the news first. More than once the United Press had news which the censors would not pass because Reuters had not confirmed it.

Harold Guard, one of the ablest newspapermen in Singapore, was manager of the United Press Incidently, he was an Englishman although he represented an American news service.

After one heated conference with Colonial Secretary Jones, Harold Guard came back and said:

"Britain is begging for America to help her in the war against Germany. America rushes Lend-Lease war material as fast as she can across the Atlantic and what does she get in return? Stupid, blundering fools here trying to interfere with the freedom of the press in Singapore.

He added that the Colonial Secretary had accused American newspapermen of interfering with British policy.

"That's the trouble with you Americans—too honest and therefore dangerous."

When Guard told him that he was not an American but a British veteran of the World War—the Colonial Secretary had nothing to say.

As soon as United Press was allowed to service the newspapers, the Singapore Herald signed a contract, for I realized that in co-operating with the American news service, the Singapore Herald could present better news than the garbled Reuter dispatches.

And I realized that if United Press was allowed to operate in Singapore, it might lead the way for Domei Tsushin-sha also to break into the Singapore field.

Thus, with these things in mind, the Singapore Herald and the Eastern News Service worked hand-in-hand with the United Press—in order to tell the truth about the war in Europe and the situation in the Far East. For United Press fearlessly called a British defeat what it was and not "a strategic withdrawal." Of course I realized that it included a lot of American propaganda but this was omitted. The Herald used the United Press only for the facts of the war in Europe and relied on Eastern News for the situation in East Asia.

By this time, the Herald was recognized as the liveliest newspaper in town. Every official in Singapore subscribed to the Herald while in the evening, soldiers and sailors, Australian and Scotsman all read the Herald.

Often brokers and businessmen called up the Singapore Herald for the latest news and the extra editions were sold out completely before the competition could get started. Often the Herald came out with an extra edition so quickly that the Straits Times and the Malaya Tribune did not even take the trouble to print one themselves.

Due to the steady counsel of Consul-General Tsurumi, the Singapore Herald on the eve of war had rapidly developed into an influential newspaper whose editorial comments were frequently cabled throughout the world by Reuters and United Press.

Shortly following the freezing of Japanese assets by the Governments of the United States and Great Britain, the controversy between the Reuters syndicate and the Singapore Herald reached its peak.

For a long time the Singapore Herald had been dissatisfied with the service sent to it by Reuters—it was our contention that the Straits Times owners had too much voice in the type of service supplied to newspapers in Singapore. For instance, the Straits Times went to Press at 12 noon and consequently, Reuters did not send any late news after that time. Time and time again, I wrote to the Reuters manager in Singapore, Mr. Henry, that unless Reuters improved their service, I would be forced to take action.

The appearance of United Press Service into the Singapore field brought a valuable ally for the fight against the British news service. United Press continued to supply the Singapore Herald with much last minute news, particularly their coverage of Washington during the critical U.S.-Japan peace talks, were of utmost service to the Singapore Herald's evening deadline.

Finally, it got to the point where Reuters would not accede to our demands and I wrote to manager Henry indicating the Singapore Herald's decision to drop Reuters service—and to rely henceforth only on United Service and Eastern News Service.

It brought forth a strong protest from the Reuters manager and also brought Kenneth Selby-Walker, Far Eastern divisional manager of Reuters, down from Shanghai on the run.

A series of conferences followed and since they would not fall in with my proposals for a different type of news service—I wanted only a 12-hour coverage instead of the existing 24-hour service—I announced that the Singapore Herald would drop Reuters service as of January 1, 1942.

Selby-Walker invited me to have dinner and to talk things over about two weeks before the outbreak of war. We went to Cyrano's where we opened a good battle of wine for Cyrano's was stocked with the wines and liquors from the captured Ille De France. We talked business, later swung over to politics and ended up by having a fine chat at his home on Grange Road.

But the Singapore Herald stood firm. Despite Selby-Walker's wine, I calmly stood my ground. Selby-Walker threatened the Herald with dire consequences:

"If you drop Reuter's service, I'll personally see to it that the Singapore Herald will not continue publication in Singapore."

My answer to the Reuters manager was simple:

"We'll see about that."

During the course of the Washington talks, British officials in Singapore kept in close touch with the Japanese Government's policies, texts of speeches by Japanese statesmen and the progress of the discussions in the columns of the Singapore Herald since most of its edition in those days were devoted to the situation in the Far East while the Malaya Tribune and the Straits Times filled theirs with British propaganda.

Shortly before the outbreak of war, Consul-General Tsurumi was recalled to Tokyo. I went to see him immediately regarding the future of the newspaper.

He advised me to continue with the Singapore Herald. I knew then that I must stay and publish the Singapore Herald until the very day that war broke out—to be interned if necessary.

The Japanese community in Singapore welcomed the new Consul-General, Suemasa Okamoto, on Thursday—and on Monday morning, all of us, including the new Consul-General, were interned. It was an interesting coincidence that the Singapore Herald got its start under a Consul-General Okamoto and its last edition on Saturday, December 6, was printed under another Consul-General Okamoto.

The final week was one of frenzied excitement and activity in Singapore. Tokyo announced that the Asama Maru would be sent on December 25 for the remainder of the Japanese who wished to evacuate. Eastern News Service closed down since its Manager, Takashi Kaite, Domei correspondent in Singapore, had been recalled by his head office. Suganuma of the Osaka Mainichi was also leaving. Only Ninomiya, the Asahi correspondent, remained.

Darrell Berrigan of United Press went up to Bangkok on Tuesday and on Friday his cable was interrupted in the midst of the transmission. Guard, receiving in Singapore, immediately suspected that something had happened when the message was not repeated on Saturday. That day, about 40 Japanese sailing for Bangkok on a Thai steamer, were stopped by a Governor's decree. Later, we learned that the Thai-Malai frontier had been closed and train service stopped.

Meanwhile, the Australian Radio and United Press reported that a huge convoy of Japanese transports was steaming south. On Sunday, British and Australian troops were ordered back to their posts. Military Police went through every theater, restaurant, cabaret and brothel in order to round up the soldiers. "All Leaves Cancelled" was the notice flashed on the screen and over the radio.

And yet the British claimed that war was a surprise. The British officials knew that the war was coming and tried desperately to hide the fact from the Asiatics.

The truth was that the conceited British commanders thought that Japan was bluffing. But Japan was not bluffing. She meant every word when she declared that unless the Anglo-Americans changed their policy it would mean war. The British in Singapore were blind and stubborn until the very end.

And so war came to Singapore.

(To Be Continued Next Monday)

BRITISH SOLDIERS SPREAD SOCIAL DISEASES IN IRAN

7,000 Cases Already Reported In Teheran in 3 Months—Investigations Ordered

ANKARA.—A catastrophic increase of social diseases in Iran since the occupation of that country by British troops is reported by the Iranian Ministry of Public Health, state Teheran dispatches.

No fewer than 7,000 cases of syphilis have been observed in Teheran alone during the past three months. Similar conditions prevail in the towns of western Iran.

The memorandum announces that the Government has decided to appoint a special medical commission to fight this dangerous spread of social diseases.

U.S. Doughboy Acquitted

STOCKHOLM.—After a trial lasting six days before a military court in Liverpool, Private Brundick, of the United States army, has been acquitted of a charge of homicide by shooting an English dockhand. Brundick, in defense, said the Englishman had abused and attacked him when asked to be more careful in handling packing cases from a freighter.

Nippon Times has purchased the newspaper serial rights of Singapore Assignment, one of the most fascinating and informative books written since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia. Its brilliant author, Tatsuki Fujii, is Domei Staff Correspondent in Shonan and was formerly managing editor of the Singapore Herald. He was arrested and interned in Singapore following the outbreak of the War and was later shipped to India. In Singapore Assignment Mr. Fujii vividly recounts his experiences in Japan, Singapore and in India.

Nippon Times

Published by the Nippon Times Limited
TOSHI GO, President and Editor

TOKYO OFFICE:
5, Itchome, Uchisaiwai-cho, Kojimachiku, Central P.O. Box 144, 352, 658.
Telephone: Ginza (57) 303, 403, 5857, 5858, 5859, 7003.
Telegraphic Address: "Times Tokyoyubin."
Furikae No. Tokyo 64848.

BRANCH OFFICES:
OSAKA, Dojima Bldg., Tel. Kita 1770.
YOKOHAMA, 1, Itchome, Kaigan-dori, Naka-ku. Tel. Honkyoku (2) 5240.
KOBE, 65, Naniwa-machi, Kobe-ku. Tel. Sannomiya 3970-71.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
One month, ¥5.00; six months ¥28.00; one year, ¥55.00
Postage free to all parts of the Japanese Empire, Manchoukuo and China. For foreign countries, including postage, six months, ¥42.40, one year, ¥83.80. All subscriptions are payable in advance.

TOKYO, MONDAY, MAY 17, 1943

The Anglo-American Maelstrom

The frantic efforts by the American newspapers to stir up their readers into a state of frenzy over the Anglo-American gains in North Africa have assumed the proportions of a rumpus, which is churning public opinion in the United States into a maelstrom of confusion. Many reports reaching here through neutral channels clearly indicate to what excess the American newspaper rumpus is being carried.

The New York Times is reported to have splashed a headline across its front page: "Pacific Believed Roosevelt-Churchill Topic." The New York Herald Tribune is quoted as saying: "Parley may be mapping a Far Eastern offensive." The Washington Star headline is quoted as declaring: "Leaders Map New Blows Against the Japanese."

The newspaper clamor for the immediate opening of a major offensive on the Pacific has gone so far beyond the limits of reasonable prospect that it has begun to annoy even Franklin D. Roosevelt, who, in order to avoid the blame for encouraging false hopes, was moved to put himself on record, during the White House press conference on Friday, that he and Winston Churchill were still in the "conference stage" and that there might be no important news until the visit is practically over.

This hesitant attitude of Roosevelt has its background in the residual confusion in the Anglo-American opinion regarding the actual prospects of the war situation. A successful double-front offense on a major scale—one thrust into the continent of Europe and the other across the Pacific—is considered a physical impossibility by Americans and British alike. A grave doubt is reported to be prevalent among them as regards which should be the next main theater of the war—the Pacific or Europe.

Emphasis on the European front is something that Winston Churchill is likely to insist on in his conversation with Roosevelt. The extreme caution he is taking in this direction is reflected in the utterances of such responsible men as Lord Linlithgow, Viceroy of India, and Tahu Howe, the ace BBC commentator.

Lord Linlithgow's warning broadcast from New Delhi Thursday was timed to back up the Churchill view when he pointed out: "The Japanese have captured valuable territories and bases and have had time to consolidate them. So, quick results will not be possible." Tahu Howe went on the air also on Thursday with the advice: "The general war picture is splashed with some highlights but there is still a number of black spots. The news from Burma today is not so good. What we call the 'holding war' in the Far East and the Southwest Pacific area is still full of grave dangers."

While thus throwing a wet blanket over the American jubilation over a possible opening of a major offensive on the Pacific, the two British spokesmen lost no time in sounding another curious note of warning against hasty action in Europe. Neutral sources quoted Lord Linlithgow as saying in the same broadcast speech that Germany is still "tremendously powerful" and will offer strong resistance to any invaders from the west. To this, Tahu Howe added his voice from London by declaring that the eyes of the people should be opened to the "really colossal number" of aircraft which would be needed to launch successfully an invasion of the continent of Europe. The identical theme of these two broadcast warnings leaves no doubt that they were inspired by the highest British official sources with a strong indication that Churchill himself was a party to that inspiration.

What is obvious in all these statements is the twofold British desire, firstly to keep the emphasis of the Anglo-American war efforts primarily on the European front and secondly to assure themselves of further material aid from the United States. How to reconcile this British design with the current American newspaper clamor for a major offensive in the Pacific is the problem that must be weighing heavily on the minds of Roosevelt and Churchill now in daily conference in Washington. And the way the American newspapers are handling the problem gives them no comfort. The maelstrom which the American newspapers has churned up is something out of which Roosevelt and Churchill can hope to extricate themselves only with great difficulty and toilsome maneuvering.

The latest American sally against the island of Attu can be viewed as a part of the possible series of attempts by Roosevelt to extricate himself from the maelstrom. In the meantime, whatever the Anglo-American case may be, the people in Japan have ceased to be bothered with what predicaments the Anglo-American leaders find themselves in. Prepared for all eventualities, the Japanese can regard the current Anglo-American maelstrom as something with which they can amuse themselves in their spare moments.

Newspapers Tell the Story

Newspapers that have just arrived from Manila graphically tell of the enthusiastic welcome Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo was accorded by the Filipino populace on his recent visit there. No amount of propaganda concocted by the enemy can contest the spontaneous ovation the people of the Philippines gave our Prime Minister.

Photographs in the newspapers at hand give an idea of the overwhelming success of the rally held at Luneta Park in welcome of General Tojo. The Tribune said it was attended by an "unprecedented throng, the largest crowd ever gathered in Manila."

Other photographs show the Prime Minister himself taking a prone position with a Filipino Constabulary trainee, check up on what the latter had learned in the constabulary academy; the Prime Minister visiting the Normal Institute where he watched young Filipino women teachers doing their radio calisthenics; the Prime Minister visiting a primary school, indicating his deep concern for the young generation of the Philippines; the Prime Minister talking to a Filipino peanut vendor; and the Prime Minister and Chairman Jorge B. Vargas of the Executive Commission, their faces wreathed in smiles, chatting amiably at the Manila Hotel.

These photographs of course fall far short of doing justice to the Prime Minister's visit, but they are significant in revealing the thoroughness with which he inspected conditions in the capital of the Philippines notwithstanding the shortness of his stay. They are significant also in that the Prime Minister, by his unassuming democratic manner of making direct contacts with the man in the street, thoroughly won over the Filipino people.

Something of the thrill of joy experienced by the Philippine nation at the news of the Prime Minister's arrival can be seen in the following report by the Tribune: "News of the arrival of the Japanese Prime Minister spread like wildfire in the city yesterday, causing great rejoicing and eliciting a feeling of pride among Filipinos who felt highly honored by the unexpected visit of such an important personage as the Prime Minister of Japan. . . . The visit of Prime Minister Tojo to the Philippines finds no precedent in history. The Prime Minister has already visited Nanking and Manchoukuo but this is the first time that he sets foot on any of the countries of the southern regions."

The jubilation of the Filipino people over the visit of the Prime Minister is at once understandable when it is considered that he has been an ardent champion of the granting of independence to the Philippines at the earliest appropriate time in the future. His declarations in the Imperial Diet on that subject have been an inspiration to the Filipinos in their efforts to cooperate with the Japanese Military Administration for the construction of a new Philippines. But to see the Prime Minister in their very midst was crowning proof of his solicitude for the Filipino people.

The Prime Minister's visit was cause for even greater appreciation by the Filipinos because they recalled that not even a single Minister from Madrid had deigned to step on the islands under the 300 years of Spanish rule. They remembered too that not a single President of the United States had condescended to visit the archipelago under the 40 years of American administration despite repeated expressions of concern by the Washington authorities for the welfare of the Filipino people.

But here was the Prime Minister of the Empire of Japan visiting Manila for the especial purpose of witnessing at first hand the efforts being made by the Filipinos for the establishment of a real Philippines for the Filipinos, notwithstanding the heavy pressure of his official business in the prosecution of the War of Greater East Asia. Such was the reaction of the Filipino people to the Prime Minister's arrival. Is it any wonder that the Filipino people have been profoundly impressed by the Prime Minister's visit?

BRITAIN'S POLICY IN INDIA BASED ON RUTHLESS EXPLOITATION PLAN

Indian Nationalists Perfectly Justified in Demanding Privilege to Form Own Government

By NAOKICHI TANAKA
(Special to the Nippon Times and Contemporary Japan)

Naokichi Tanaka, professor at Ritsumei-kan University, was formerly lecturer on history of diplomacy and politics at Kyoto Imperial University. His published works include: Doitsu Gaikoshi Ron (History of German Diplomacy), Kokusai Seiji kara mita Nisshi no Koso (Sino-Japanese Conflict as Viewed from International Politics), Sekai Seikyoku to Toa Shin-chitsujo (World Politics and the East Asiatic New Order), Oshu Daidoran to Toa Remmei (The European War and the East Asiatic League), etc.

The complicated political situation in India leaves no room for doubt that Britain is experiencing great difficulty in enforcing its wartime policies. Unless the issue of Indian independence is solved in the manner desired by the Indian nationalists, there seems to be little or no hope for Britain to come to an amicable understanding with them. The present British-Indian deadlock is the creation of Albion. The Indian nationalists are perfectly justified in demanding political freedom. They have the legal and sovereign right to request the British Government to leave them alone to their destiny and let them settle their problems in the light of their own judgment and the trend of the world situation. But the British Government, which is determined to be guided by its self-enunciated empire-centric policy, is absolutely unwilling to deviate from the fixed path of keeping India under its domination.

The British attitude of non-compromise with the Indian nationalists has aggravated the condition in the country to such an extent that both the British High Command and the British administration there are facing an outspoken national resentment. Britain's India policy is still based on its pre-war plan of exploitation. It regards the maintenance of control over India as an indispensable necessity to insure the safety of its Empire. Lord Rothermere once said: "Should Britain lose India, the great British Empire would collapse first economically and then politically." It appears that Britain wants India to act as its safety valve in all its political and economic activities, denying that country at all times the right of self-determination. How can India submit to such an irrational policy? It has no alternative but to pursue a course of action which would lead to its political emancipation.

Considers India Mainstay

Bereft of the whole-hearted cooperation of India, Britain has been put in an attenuate position to prosecute hostilities against the Axis Powers. Nonetheless, India's man-power and economic resources are being used to feed the gargantuan war machine of London which, as a matter of fact, considers it the mainstay of its "eastern sphere."

Since the beginning of the European war, Britain has been making serious endeavors to accelerate a phenomenal increase in India's production of war materials mainly for the selfish purpose of converting it into an "arsenal for the eastern sphere." These endeavors increased in tempo with the start of the war in Greater East Asia. However, they have not yet yielded the anticipated result on account of the political imbroglio arising out of Britain's refusal to grant independence to India and the adoption of a policy of non-association and non-cooperation with the British war efforts by the Indian nationalists. In consequence, the British war-preparedness in India has hit a snag. Judging from the present political drift in that country, it can be said that this bottleneck will become more pronounced with the passing of time.

During the last World War, India, accepting the British pledge of home rule after the termination of hostilities, extended all-out aids to Britain. The retraction of that solemn promise after the return of peace evoked nation-wide protests in India, finally culminating in the initiation tion of a non-violent non-cooperation movement under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. From that time onward, the Indian nationalists have been fighting for the freedom of their country with all the legitimate means at their command. The issue of Indian independence reached a new height with the declaration of war against America and Britain by Japan.

The British Government dispatched Sir Stafford Cripps to negotiate a settlement with the Indian National Congress, the Muslim League and other political parties of India. All the political sections demanded the recognition of India's independence as the basis for a rapprochement between Britain and India. As the London Government rejected this condition, the Cripps mission ended in a fiasco. After that, the Indian National Congress intensified its "quit Britain" campaign, and when a meeting of the Congress Committee was being held at Bombay to pass a resolution demanding the withdrawal of Britain from India, a large-scale arrest of nationalist leaders was carried out.

Mahatma Gandhi, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, president of the Indian National Congress, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and many prominent nationalists were incarcerated. This high-handed measure enraged the Indian masses to such an extreme that they began to commit acts of violence and destruction. At present, the situation in India is by no means favorable to Britain. The nationalist movement there is going on without any sign of abatement.

Accentuated Unrest

An unbroken string of military and naval reverses suffered by the Anglo-American nations in the current war in Greater East Asia have accentuated the political unrest in India, and it has become practically impossible for Britain to maneuver a change of attitude on the part of the Indian National Congress, the Muslim League, the Hindu Mahasabha and other denominations. The "White Paper" on the unrest in India recently issued simultaneously in New Delhi and London squarely pointed out that a political compromise with the Indian nationalists could not be reached in the near future. Earlier, the twenty-one day fast observed by Mahatma Gandhi in protest to British oppressive policy in India symbolized the national will of the Indian people to part company with Albion.

Politically, the "White Paper," which is the nature of a concocted rebuttal to Mahatma Gandhi's fast and the nationalist aspiration of India, gives bold hints as to how the British squeeze system would be tightened further. The spirit of Prime Minister Churchill's declaration that "Britain has no desire to surrender its Empire" is lucidly reflected in this official document. It is a foregone conclusion that such a threatening note will register no effect on the promotion of the present nationalist movement, especially when the Indian patriotic groups are out to have their way even at the peril of their existence.

While Britain has expressed its intention to grant India the status of a dominion, the Indian nationalists contend that their country, being a self-constituted sovereign State, cannot be placed in the category of a "commonwealth nation." Emphasizing that liberty is the inalienable right of a nation, they claim that this untransferrable authority must be returned to India, so that it can shape its own policy of international intercourse unhampered by external political landslides.

The political organism of the British Empire is so vast and complex that it is scarcely possible to proffer a single-type definition. Each dominion of Britain has certain characteristics which are irreconcilable with the characteristics of other British dominions. As India is in no wise racially, linguistically or culturally related to Britain, a dominion pattern political organism can never be accepted by its people as a national system of administration.

Forms Own Government

It is indisputable that India must be allowed to form its own Government in the manner it thinks best. Any political tie between Indian sovereignty and British Crown would nullify the independent status of India and reduce it to the position of a British dominion. The Indian nationalists are acting unquestionably within the bounds of propriety in demanding the restoration of their political privilege to form their own government as a full-fledged administration of the country.

As long as Britain considers it impossible to acquiesce in the proposition of the nationalists, it needs no imagination to foresee that relations between Britain and India would become more and more strained, and that the Indians would continue to labor for the emancipation of their country from alien control. If, on the other hand, Britain accepts the question of Indian independence as a fait accompli, it will certainly earn the sincere goodwill of the Indian people. Whether Britain likes it or not, the Indian nationalists will not slacken their internal anti-British struggle until the goal of independence is reached.

Now that the war is going on, the question of Indian defense has assumed a new character. London is bent upon manipulating it to foster its self-interest. Britain claims that its Empire defense system has as its root a series of separate centers of power, some of which, after taking care of local defense, are able to contribute to something wider, while others, on the other hand, may require reinforcement from a common pool. With regard to India, the same system specifies that "under the supreme authority of the United Kingdom Government are the defense forces of India." This means that local defense and common pool as envisaged in the Empire defense system operates in India for the benefit of Britain, and that the defense forces of India are maintained for meeting the external military requirements of the United Kingdom Government.

The present defense scheme of India amounts to nothing but a military plan of Britain ostensibly prepared to wage war against Japan with India as its base and send Indian effectives to other spheres to replenish British front lines against Germany and Italy. Put bluntly, the defense scheme, which is operating in India, has been worked out principally to enable Britain to utilize Indian effectives, Indian equipment and Indian economic and industrial resources for its own war purposes.

Strictly speaking, the question of India's territorial defense does not arise, because Japan, Germany and Italy have no desire whatsoever to engage in hostilities with India. They are genuinely sympathetic to the cause of Indian independence and are willing to be of assistance to that country to achieve its objective. Japanese air bombardments on strategical places in eastern India have been prompted by military necessity to check probable British thrusts into Japanese-controlled territory.

Japan's Feeling Sincere

It is obvious that Japan is only interested in the destruction of the British military machinery in India, and that it has no inclination to superimpose its policy on the movement of the nationalist agitation for independence. Hence, the British viewpoint that India must be defended against Japanese menace is more than a hypothetical opinion. In fact, the menace to India is the entrenchment of British rule and its military command. The official statements hitherto issued by Japan are explicit enough that this country wishes that India, by taking advantage of the present psychological occasion, should recapture its autonomous position to contribute its share to the cause of Asiatic harmony and international fellowship. This desire of Japan is in accord with the declared policy of the Indian nationalists. No one can truthfully construe it as detrimental to the Indian interest. It is a desire which is based on unsophisticated sincerity of feeling.

The disappearance of Anglo-American influences from Greater East Asia has brought about a new awakening in this part of the Orient. Japan, by eliminating alien domination, has paved the way for the gradual, legitimate rise of the countries of Greater East Asia. It is not trying to dominate them; but is endeavoring to materialize mutual collaboration and assistance for common benefit. This policy of Japan stands in striking contrast to the policy of domination and exploition of the "democratic" Powers.

The British policy in India has perpetrated an administrative rule which, in the words of Dr. V. H. Rutherford, "is the lowest and most immoral system of government in the world." Japan, which in early times received cultural and philosophic assistance from India, is mentally and emotionally so near to that country that it feels extremely grieved at the sad plight of the Indian people. Albion has no such feeling for India. It is out to keep India under subjugation indefinitely. The British rule in India is the exploiter's charter. But will it be always able to withstand the shock of anti-British outbursts in the country? The present upheaval in India gives its own reply—a reply which announces that the British rule is fast disintegrating.

KAMAKURA

By M. K.

Grey sands and tawny sea
And crooked pines that rise
From sunburnt cliffs, to touch
The far near-seeming skies.

Eternal murmurings
Of waves that reach the shore.
That reach, ah! only reach—
To be withdrawn once more.

The soul unsatisfied
Sees here his own tale told.
For once he seemed to see
Truth's fleeting form, and hold

Her lightly by the hand,
To find that she was gone.
To learn that Truth was God's,
And like to God unknown.

In the Periodicals

Taiheiyo, Vol. 6, No. 5, May, 1943 (in Japanese). Publishers, the Taiheiyo Kyokai, Tokyo. Price 50 sen. Leading articles: The 38th Navy Day, Indefeatable Structure and Anglo-American Restlessness, Way to Shatter Enemy's Fighting Spirit, Present War Situation, Historical Observation of Development of Sea Battle, Present and Future of Air Combat, Submarine Warfare and Its Future, Meaning of Strengthening Air Fighting Forces, and War and Economy.

Nippon Times Weekly, Vol. XV, No. 2 dated May 13, 1943 (in English). Publishers, the Nippon Times, Ltd., Tokyo. Price 40 sen. Illustrated, Contents: Calendar, News Highlights, Yankee Atrocities, Corregidor: Isle of Delusion, Disturbers of Peace, Singapore Assignment, Japan Will Win, Japan's Trade Program, Editorials, Stranger Than Fiction, British Calamity, Heroism in a U-Boat, and Elementary Japanese Course.

ASIATIC BEAUTY PERMEATES RICH PHILIPPINE LITERATURE

Charming Legends and Songs Reveal Creative Gifts of Ancient Filipinos of Pre-Spanish Days

By TSUNEHISA SAKURADA
(From the Chisel)

Their ancient literature having been burnt or destroyed by the Spanish Catholics, and whatever remained having been overlooked or ignored by the proud Americans, we are left with only the ancient songs, myths, legends, allegories, fairy-tales, aphorisms and riddles of the Filipinos to judge the standard of art and culture attained by them in the past.

The Filipinos were made frivolous and vain by the Americans with a view to checking their insurgency against American imperialism. The Americans further humbled the Filipinos by making about them such contemptuous songs as "the monkeys of Zamboanga have no tails" and so on.

Japan, on the other hand, has become alive to the great injustices done to the Filipinos by the Americans, and has begun to resuscitate their cultural past. It is only by such means as this that mutual regard between the two countries can be created which is most needed at present for each other's support.

In this article we are confining curselves to the literary qualities that Filipinos possessed in the ancient days.

Among the primitive documents that we can lay hands on we shall choose the literary and sculptural works of that patriot Jose Rizal, the paintings of Hidalgo and Amorsoro, and the writings of Paterno, all of which were quite popular in the islands during the 400 years of Spanish domination. They are even now considered very highly for their respective artistic merits.

Caused Decay

But the Americans were the cause of their decay. While the Spanish fostered and encouraged the architectural creations of the Filipinos, and inspired the erection of numerous cathedrals and fortresses, the commercial minded Americans who found no use for them allowed them to go to ruins. But the religious bigotry of the Catholic priests did not permit the full blossoming of the literary talents of the people. They took all the ancient writings of the Filipinos for heretic literature, written under the dictates of a demoniac spirit, and destroyed them by fire. They declared that it was the will of God that they should do so, and one priest has chronicled that he burnt more than 300 manuscripts that had been written in the tongue of southern Luzon. As a result, we are not able to know anything about the literature that existed prior to the possession of the islands by the Spanish; the only thing that we are, however, able to know is that among the Mangyan tribe of Mindoro and a part of Negros there once prevailed the horizontal mode of writing—from left to right—and that the Tagbanuas of Palawan wrote vertically, obviously in the Sanskrit or Arabic style. We have also some records to show that as early as 1433, a century before Magellan visited the islands, Chieftain Karanchao had compiled laws which he had enforced in his domain.

It is therefore only from the beautiful legends and songs that have passed from mouth to mouth, and from one generation to the next that we are able to know that the ancient Filipinos possessed gifts of mind and creativeness that were pregnant with a great literary future. It is in the literature of the pre-Spanish days that we can find most the quintessence of Asiatic beauty.

Two Old Epics

Of the Filipino productions that have been passed down by word or mouth the "Udo-Udo" and the "Dalangan" are unmistakably the two oldest epics that we know of in the Philippines. Thanks to the admirable memory of the Filipinos, these long poems have been mastered by the Ifugaos and the Lanao-Moros. One impression gained from these epics is that the Ifugaos who inhabit the interior of northern Luzon seem to enter the history of the Philippines even before the immigration of the Moros. The antiquity and ingenuity of the Ifugao race is marked by their dextrous invention of stone-walled terraces, along precipices that are as high as 1,700 to 3,000 meters above sea-level, where they have made beautiful paddy fields. The songs tell us that the Ifugaos can boast of a tradition 1,000 years old.

Though chiefly dealing with the deeds of the tribal hero Ariguan the "Udo-Udo" is a noble song with plenty of material for intellectual thought. It is exquisitely interspersed with mythical interpretations about the creation of the world and the story of the one-time millenium of the Ifugaos. It is the custom of the tribe, even now, to recite parts of the "Udo-Udo" on auspicious ceremonial occasions; for, to recite the whole would take more than two hours. The sister epic, known as the "Arim," which is also as lengthy as the "Udo-Udo" tells of gods whom the Ifugaos worshipped, and the gods' doings in heaven which resemble closely those related in the Indian "Ramayana."

Regarding the other epic, the "Dalangan" of the Lanao-Moros, it is a collective name for a group of poems, the outstanding of which are the "Batugan," "Indalabatula-Suleiman," "Bidasari" and "Daramoke-Babai." Each of these is of considerable length, taking more than a week to recite. The deeds of the tribal heroes are the themes of all of them, full of romance, bravery and beauty that stir the emotions of the listeners.

The "Bantugan", for instance, has Bantugan, the younger brother of Chieftain Bumbaran, as its hero, a handsome, brave warrior who fell in love with a beautiful queen of a neighbouring country. The chieftain, his eldest brother, drove him out of the country in jealousy, and Bantugan underwent many trials and privations, and involved himself in many battles in which he always emerged a victor. He finally succumbed to an illness, and died happy and smiling in the arms of his beloved, the queen of the neighboring country. The song is so touching to the Lanao-Moros that every one knows it. During nights one may usually listen to the strains of the song coming out from any random house, the women weeping in sadness and the men cheering the victorious battles of Bantugan. This is how the songs are being preserved by the Moros who claim an ancestry dating back eight hundred years.

Produced Lyrical Poems

Besides the long epics, the ancient Filipinos produced many lyrical poems of singular beauty and composition. Their originals having however been written in Sanskrit or Arabic, they were later rendered into the native tongue and handed down to succeeding generations. These songs possess all those technical, imaginative and emotional characteristics which are peculiar to Asiatic literature. The legends and religious poems are divided into eight stanzas, while the romantic odes are made up of twelve. While magical chants form a greater portion of them, the romantic odes such as the boatman's songs, nuptial songs and love songs are not few in number. But, songs of lighter vein, as the "Rain Song" are few and far between. The "Rain Song" is so delightful to the Filipinos, that almost every one hums it. It runs somethnig as follows:

Rain, the rain that pours on the
  dagubagu tree
Floods the ground and makes it
  muddy;
Its drops are as big as the bashikun berries,
As big as to flay the poor little
  chicks.

As for the prose writings of the ancient Filipinos, they consisted, before the coming in of the Spaniards, mainly of fairy tales and allegorical stories, dealing with the simplest things in the daily life of the natives. It is again the Lanao-Moros and the Magindanaos that were proficient in this art, and produced most of them. "Pus and Taman," "Indalabatura," "Raja-Suleiman," "Ubar and Battir" and the like are so gripping to the imagination that they excel even the "Alibaba," the "Sindbad" and the "Aladdin" of the Arabian Nights. A close examination of the Filipino prose tales reveals that they have much in common with those of India and Arabia, with an exotic local background of the Filipinos cleverly interwoven in the story. To name a few well-known of them, we may take the "Maracas and Maganda," "the First of the Coconut Trees," "the Monkey and the Turtle" and "Why are the Ransones edible." "When the Lilacs Return" is one which is exceptionally interesting, rich in Asiatic coloration, transporting the reader from the oppressive realities of life to the fanciful joys of a fairyland.

The foregoing ones do by no means exhaust the primitive literature of the Filipinos, as we have purposely made no reference to the epic poems of the converted natives—the "Araya" and the "Margutas" of the Visayans, and the "Raguda" and the "Ram-an" of the Ilocanos.

In the field of dramatic literature and art, the Filipinos had reached such a high degree of development that the Spanish were simply astonished at the time of their occupation of the islands. The Filipinos' love for drama continues even to this day. After the invasion of the Spaniards, the primitive drama of the islands underwent a change. The so-called instructive plays were innovated. They can be divided into three classes: those that were written by the Catholic priests for the purpose of converting the natives more readily; translations of the Latin plays, and those that were written

(Continued on Page 5)

The Front Line Wins
When the Home Front
Endures

Nippon Times
Evening

Home, Office, Workshop—
Battlefields All, for
Victory

No. 15,854 TOKYO, MONDAY, MAY 17, 1943 第三種郵便物認可 昭和十五年十二月二十七日 Price 8 Sen

In News Spotlight

Ex-Governor Landon Denounces U.S.-British-Soviet Imperialism

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, May 15.—Alfred M. Landon, former Governor of Kansas, and former Republican Presidential candidate in 1936, attacked the imperialistic ambition of the United States, Great Britain and the Soviet Union, and particularly pointed out the contradiction of President Roosevelt's policies today, according to reports from Minneapolis.

"The United States is still unable to liquidate her economic isolation and that is a proof that President Roosevelt's economic policies are not carried out," he said.

"Why do anti-Axis nations forget the Atlantic Charter entirely when they discuss concrete post-war problems?

"British Prime Minister Winston Churchill recently declared that he was not the liquidator of the British Empire, and also the Soviet Union disregarded the boundary of a nation belonging to the anti-Axis front. The world tragedy is caused because a handful of men are deciding the fate of the humanity of the world."

Press Comments

Monday, May 17
MAINICHI—Let the Foe Be Exhausted
TOKYO SHIMBUN—Axis Victory Certain

Let the Foe Be Exhausted

MAINICHI—The Roosevelt-Churchill conversations at Washington already have been continued in sheer earnest these four or five days, but no concrete conclusion apparently has yet been reached. It seems that the conversations are encountering a good deal of difficulties, and rightly and naturally they should be so.

When the current Great War has reached such a decisive stage as at present, the topics of discussion at the conversations must naturally be concrete measures to face the war situation—concrete measures to make a decisive right or left turn. It cannot be expected that the situation will be saved by such a thing as the Atlantic Charter embodying, as it were, only basic principles attaching importance to their propaganda value, so irresponsible in itself in that immediately after the announcement of the Charter it "has had the bottom knocked out."

The most important topics of discussion at the present conference are viewed to be, firstly, to what battle front is to be attached utmost importance, and secondly, what operations are to be conducted toward the Soviet Union.

In the case of the first point, America and Britain hitherto have attached primary importance to the war against Germany and Italy. But this has caused a great deal of dissatisfaction on the part of the American nation, and Australia and Chungking. This indicates nothing but disunity. Therefore, Churchill who is threatened by this disunity has in the past purposely proclaimed loudly that after they have crushed Germany and Italy they will send large naval and army forces over to East Asia, thus trying temporarily to suppress the mounting dissatisfaction on the part of the anti-Axis nations. However, the new developments in North Africa have now made him try a new move directed to Roosevelt.

On the part of Roosevelt himself, however, although he has a burning ambition for a fourth term in view of the forthcoming Presidential election, has he really sufficient courage to face the election with confidence in the face of continued reverses suffered in the Pacific?

On the other hand, for Churchill, the biggest problem confronting him is no mere election but the vital issue of whether Britain will be able to exist or will perish. Britain today is not existing independently but is being supported entirely by the United States from its collapse. Such is indeed the actual state of affairs faced by Britain itself. Herein is found an inevitable cause for which the confrontation between Roosevelt, "the commander," and Churchill, "his lieutenant," must grow more and more gravely serious.

The operations directed to the Soviet Union, at present, are concentrated on the single point of holding a Roosevelt-Stalin meeting. But we can't now tell at all, with what justifiable plea and formula the way will be opened for holding the projected Roosevelt-Stalin conversations. Roosevelt's visit to Moscow or Stalin's visit to Washington is quite inconceivable under the present stage of the war developments. Should they take such a step, their political assets would come to nil. Neither the American nor Soviet nations could afford such a step to be taken by their leaders.

Then, is it possible to take Stalin to some place abroad for the purpose of holding a parley? This elicitated a negative reply at the time a similar question was raised on the occasion of the last Casablanca conference. Then does it hold the same on the present occasion? Our answer to this question is that it will remain the same for the time being. The reason is the mental attitude of Stalin toward the United States and Britain. Many times in the past, the Soviet authorities complained that the "Soviet Union has been encircled by the capitalistic world." The influential leaders of the Anglo-American side strongly retorted to it with their anti-Communistic theory. We are able to cite innumerable instances. Thus, anti-Communistic arguments have not disappeared even after the outbreak of the Soviet-German war.

It is inconceivable that a great leader like Stalin should ever forget the true character of America and Britain and their true attitude toward the Communistic principle on account of the mere incident of having Germany and Italy as the common enemy with America and Britain and should ever make up his mind to become an ally of the United States and Britain.

The Soviet Union has the common enemy with America and Britain, it is true, but the objectives of the war are quite different. To entrap Stalin should be regarded as a hopeless task.

Axis Victory Certain

TOKYO SHIMBUN—Spending half a year since their entry into French North Africa in autumn last year and paying a great deal of sacrifices, the United States and Britain have barely succeeded in causing the Axis forces to withdraw from North Africa. Without landing even one soldier on the continent of Europe as yet, they are already claiming as if the final victory will be theirs, which is truly laughable.

Hanson Baldwin, an American military commentator, once pointed out that the withdrawal of the Axis forces from Africa does not mean anti-Axis victory over Germany and Italy. Therefore, we are of the opinion that before a decisive battle is fought with the Axis forces in Europe, the enemy has nothing to talk about their victory or defeat.

Putting aside for a moment the question of the capability of the Anglo-American forces to fight the superior mechanized units of the Axis side, it is open to doubt if the Allied forces would be able to effect

(Continued on Page 2)

2 Japanese Tots in Java, Left Orphans, Adopted by Military Administration

Domei

BANDOENG, May 16.—Emiko and Kiyoshi Takahara lived here happily under the kind care of their parents in the childish innocence of the grave events which transpired immediately before the outbreak of the current war. Suddenly, with the explosion of hostilities the two Japanese children with an Indonesian mother were suddenly left alone as orphans.

Jiro, their father, was forcibly taken away from Bandoeng and is believed interned in Australia at present while the children's mother died in September last year during miscarriage, which was caused by the shock of having her husband taken away and the sudden thought of having two children to look after in her pregnant condition.

However, she was spared an agonizing death by the assurance of a member of the Military Administration that her children would be well taken care of. The temporary rescue from complete abandonment was short-lived for the youthful Emiko and Kiyoshi were left alone again by the death of their benefactor in two months.

But every tragic story must have a happy ending and another officer in the Military Administration immediately volunteered to play the role of a foster parent until the day Emiko and Kiyoshi might share the tender care of their real father.

Emiko, the elder sister, is now working part-time and attending the second grade of a Japanese school as well, while Kiyoshi is preparing to enter the first grade.

AMERICA MAKES HUGE DEMANDS OF SOVIET UNION

Roosevelt Aiming to Enlarge Scope of Reich-Russian War

Yomiuri-Hochi

STOCKHOLM, May 16.—Closer cooperation between the Anglo-American Powers and the Soviet Union, which is said to be the main topic of discussion at the present Roosevelt-Churchill interview in Washington, is no doubt attracting the keen attention of the world, especially in view of the fact that Elmer Davis, chief of the United States War Information Office, is now on his way to Moscow and the United States has commenced a positive movement toward the north.

Regarding this problem, latest reports available here from Britain and the United States indicate that Roosevelt, in return for the establishment of the second front in Europe and the strengthening of Soviet aid through the Lease-Lend Act, is said to be demanding the following three things:

Demands Air Bases

(1) In order to secure the Murmansk air route which is the Anglo-American route for Soviet aid, the United States demands the establishment of an American air base at Murmansk.

(2) As a prerequisite for developing the second front in the Balkans, the United States demands the Soviets to offer use of the Caucasus by the American air forces.

(3) The United States intends to enlarge the German-Soviet war to a world-wide war by strengthening the air routes between Alaska and Siberia.

Especially, Roosevelt appears to be placing utmost importance on the third item, and the future attitude of the Kremlin toward this particular issue is worthy of attention.

However, well-informed diplomatic quarters here presume that there is very little possibility of these machinations eventually being realized because of the following reasons:

(1) The Anglo-American Powers' attempt to establish the second front in the Balkans will surely clash with Soviet designs which the latter intends to realize after the war. Even if the United States attempts to strengthen her aid to the Soviet Union, the dearth of her shipping, as was clarified by Donald Nelson, Chief of the War Production Board, will render the American promise useless.

(2) As long as Premier Josef Stalin is alive the Soviet Union would not allow the United States to construct air bases at such places as Murmansk, the Caucasus and Soviet Asia.

Would Mean Encirclement

(3) If the Soviet Union ever yields to offer air bases to the United States, that will give the latter an opportunity of forming an encirclement ring against the Soviet Union, namely, a long and large encirclement line connecting the Aleutians, Siberia, and the south-western part of China and India, and down from India to Iran and the Caucasus.

Thus, the Soviet Union will have to meet a similar fate as was met by Britain.

(4) Despite all sorts of propaganda on the part of the United States Government, the Japanese-Soviet Neutrality still forms the

(Continued on Page 2)

RECONSTRUCTION OF CEBU SET BY ARMY AUTHORITIES

To Create Employment Office and Homes

Domei

CEBU, May 16.—The Japanese Military Administration in the Philippines will shortly form a committee for reconstructing Cebu City, it was learned today.

The Committee is expected to establish an employment office and a laborers' home here to aid the citizens, whose homes were virtually destroyed by the retreating Americans in April 1 of last year.

More than 80 per cent of the citizens who had evacuated the city have already returned to engage in their cooperation with the Japanese authorities.

British Excuses for Arakan Rout Bared as Pack of Miserable Lies

Times Elucidation on Bad Supply Set-Up Blasted as Reuters' Scribe Declares, 'Japanese Use Highways Built by Our Sappers'

By Arrangement with the Asahi
(Special to the Nippon Times)

RANGOON, May 15.—Having completely lost their two pet divisions and large quantities of arms and ammunition in the dense jungles of the Mayu Peninsula, the British forces are now frantically trying to camouflage and explain their miserable defeats suffered during their vain attempts to recapture Burma.

The Times, London, attributes the cause of the Arakan blunder to three factors, namely:

(1) Insufficient expansion of war results at the outset.

(2) Deficiency of supplies from the rear.

(3) Difficulty of land transport occasioned by the non-cooperation of the Indian people.

Now, let us review the exact reasons for the British defeat.

Anti-British Sentiment

The Japanese Army authorities on the spot confidently believe that spiritual alienation between the Indian soldiers and British troops from the homeland was the main cause for the British defeat. They also point out that an anti-British sentiment as well as a non-cooperative spirit among the Indian public has appeared in the form of transport sabotage of war materials.

It is quite obvious that prior to the launching of the Arakan operations, the enemy had done their best to maintain supply routes because of the fact a fine highway for military trucks runs along the western side of the Mayu Range.

Gordon Waterfield, a Reuters war correspondent, sarcastically says in his article:

"Japanese troops are now using a highway built by British sappers."

Besides this transport road, there have been a number of military establishments like army barracks, field hospitals, and foodstuffs and munitions' depots at various places, all of which show the enemy's full preparations. General Wavell, too, after his return from an inspection tour of the Arakan front, broadcast from the British Broadcasting Corporation that "the transport problem is the most vital one in the present campaign."

All these are a definite proof of how frantically the British exerted themselves to maintain the rear-supply routes; consequently the deficiency of commissary lines, which they cite as one of the factors responsible for their blunder, is nothing but an obvious excuse.

Indians Forced to Obey

Then, a conflict between the British and Indian soldiers is an undeniable fact. It is true that Indian soldiers are pulling the triggers merely by having been forced to do so by the British officers.

As a matter of fact, an Indian war prisoner, Abdul Subtler said:

"In the early part of January, a certain Indian non-commissioned officer was ordered by the British to go on patrol. The former refused to obey on the ground that he was completely exhausted. Then, the British officer, a Lieutenant-Colonel, immediately attempted to shoot him, whereupon the latter shot the former to death with his pistol and later buried his body."

There is also a wide gap between the wages of British soldiers and those of Indian troops, and it is always the case that all the wounded Indian soldiers are abandoned on the battlefield.

Thus, it is believed that Britain will have a hard time in winning the favor of Indian soldiers in the future.

ITALY PREPARED TO REPULSE FOE

Invasion Will Mean Big Loss to Enemy, Says General Sorice

By Arrangement with the Asahi
(Special to the Nippon Times)

ROME, May 15.—The night bombing carried out by Italian air forces on American and British bases in Algeria and Tunisia upon the ending of the Tunisian battle has greatly stimulated the fighting spirit of the Axis forces as the attack is regarded as the challenge for a decisive battle.

In this connection, General Antonio Sorice, Italian Undersecretary of War, spoke of the preparedness of Italy against any enemy invasion before the Military Budget Committee of the Senate yesterday, declaring:

"Even though the enemy invasion into Italian mainland or Italian front bases might succeed temporarily, the damages to be suffered by the enemy will be considerable."

Generally, it is believed that the landing of enemy forces at Sardinia, Sicily, or on Italian soil will be militarily impossible. However, the sea battle in the Mediterranean is expected to continue even after the ending of the North African battle.

Italy will mobilize all the people for the defense of the country against attacks. The Education Ministry announced that all schools, excepting universities will have the coming summer vacation one month earlier or from May 20 in consideration of measures for the protection of those school children in case of air attacks.

Yeh Reports to Wang On Mission to Japan

Domei

NANKING, May 16.—General Yeh Peng, War Minister, and Chief of Military Commission of the National Government and his party who returned here yesterday after inspecting various military and naval facilities in Japan, reported to President Wang Ching-wei on their mission this afternoon.

General Yeh was accompanied by Generals Sun Liang-cheng and Hu Yu-kun.

GIRAUD ANXIOUS TO PATCH SPLIT

Proposes 2 Sites for Future Conference With Rival De Gaulle

Domei

LISBON, May 15.—At a time when the conference between the two leaders of the opposing French factions, General Henri Giraud, of the French puppet regime in Africa, and General Charles de Gaulle, for effecting a basic solution of the present confrontation, apparently seems to have fallen through due to failure to agree on a suitable site for the meeting, the Times, London, reports that Giraud proposed on May 10 that either Marrakesh, Morroco, or Biskra, Algeria, be named as a conference spot.

It has not been disclosed, however, whether De Gaulle has accepted the invitation or not.

According to the British paper, Daily Mail, Giraud immediately followed up his invitation on May 11 with a personal letter to De Gaulle submitting measures for settling their differences.

The proffered suggestion calls for the establishment of an administrative committee or an administrative conference, comprised of a small number of governors and those occupying important posts directly connected with the prosecution of war in both the De Gaulle and Giraud factions.

The committee or the conference will be presided alternately by De Gaulle and Giraud, and in case of promulgation of any law the joint signature of both will be required.

The Committee of the French Refugee Government in London is attaching great importance to Giraud's proposals and are reportedly conferring on the matter.

For Guard Duty

Domei

KUCHING, May 15.—About 160 Indonesian and 60 Indian aspirants for guard posts ranging from 16 to 35 years of age were given examinations today by the Japanese military authorities here at the Kuching Prisoners' Camp. Successful candidates will undergo a course in military training from May 31, following which they will be ready for duty.

STRATEGIC LEAD IN KUBAN ZONE TAKEN BY REICH

Bridgehead Fortress Center of Fierce German Offensives

Domei

BERLIN, May 16.—Full strategic leadership in the Kuban bridgehead area was gained by the Germans during the last 48 hours, reported Colonel Ernest von Hammel, D.N.B. correspondent at the front line.

"German grenadiers made a surprise attack on the Soviet position yesterday and occupied an important point, inflicting heavy damages upon the defenders," Colonel von Hammel reported. "Then, storming parties continued the attack today and gained glorious results.

"East of the bridgehead fortress, strong German units launched offensive operations and occupied some points. Several hundred Soviet soldiers were taken prisoners.

"The strength of the Soviet forces defeated by the Germans within the past 48 hours is estimated to be at least three divisions, and the war trophies taken are also believed considerable.

"In this sector the full strategic leadership is entirely in the hands of German forces."

Major Albert Freitag, another D.N.B. correspondent reported on the air operations in the Kuban area as follows:

"A large formation of German dive-bombers made repeated attacks on strong enemy positions in the Kuban area, and destroyed them. They also bombed transport trains and trucks and set ablaze one oil-carrying train. Three transport trains were bombed and seriously damaged.

"Also, long-distance bomber units attacked the supply routes in the rear of Soviet forces, and in one district made direct hits on railway stations and freight cars. The German bombers also damaged and set ablaze several war supply warehouses.

"Meanwhile, high-speed Reich bomber units sank one 3,000-ton class freighter in the Arctic Ocean."

Germans Mass Troops

Yomiuri-Hochi

BERLIN, May 15.—The Eastern Front is expected to become active again in the near future for large German units are now being massed at the firing line and probably the German forces will open their attack, remarked the Red Star, organ of the Red Army.

Meanwhile, German authorities also said that large German units with many airplanes and tanks are being sent to the Eastern Front, and soon a decisive battle will be staged between the German and Soviet armies.

Kuban Fighting Fierce

Yomiuri-Hochi

STOCKHOLM, May 15.—The fierce activity started by the German forces in the Kuban district is attracting much attention as it is regarded as a sign of the beginning of the summer campaign.

Yesterday, the German forces suddenly started a large offensive operation in the Leningrad front and now severe artillery fire is being directed against the Soviet positions.

The Red Star, organ of the Red Army, warned that the German forces were again about to begin a large offensive, and simultaneously admitted that already the Axis army has broken into the Soviet position at a certain point.

It is also reported that in the central Donetz and Lake Ladoga regions, the Germans have started offensive actions, and wedged into the Soviet defense line at several points.

British Press Cautious Over Anti-Axis Strategy

By Arrangement with the Asahi
(Special to the Nippon Times)

STOCKHOLM, May 15.—While American newspapers are loudly reporting the possibility of great offensive actions to be taken by anti-Axis forces against Japan, and are also saying that the attack on Japan would be commenced at about the same time as the landing on Europe, London newspapers are taking a comparatively prudent attitude and have stated that a trend for a change would only result in scattering the fighting strength of Anglo-American forces.

Envoy Tani Presents Credentials to Wang

Domei

NANKING, May 17.—Masayuki Tani, new Japanese Ambassador to the National Government of China, presented his credentials to President Wang Ching-wei at the National Government's Ceremonial Hall in the presence of high Japanese and Chinese officials, at 11 a.m. today.

IRAN PREMIER MEMORIALIZED

Assembly Protests Government's Welfare Measures

By Arrangement with the Asahi
(Special to the Nippon Times)

ISTANBUL, May 15.—The special session of the Iranian National Assembly, called on May 11, passed a bill regarding a resolution to impeach the Government, and submitted it to Premier Ali Suheili, according to reports reaching here from Teheran.

The resolution reads as follows:

"1. More than 90 per cent of the people of Iran are now suffering miserably because of the skyrocketting of commodity prices, and most of them barely manage to keep themselves from starvation by working for foreign troops. The Government has adopted no measure to relieve this situation.

"2. The distribution of food has never been operated on a fair basis in Iran, and Government measures respecting the distribution of supplies have always failed because of the interference by foreign troops stationed in the country.

"3. The provisions sent from the United States to Iran are monopolized by the foreign troops. The people of Iran have not yet enjoyed the privilege of getting the foodstuff sent from the United States.

"4. Economic operations conducted in Iran by Britain, the United States and the Soviet Union are very active, but they are all for their own interest and not for the interest of Iran. The Iranian Government does not know what to do about such exploitation by foreign countries."

Upon receiving the above resolution of the National Assembly, Premier Suheili only explained that as British, American and Soviet troops are stationed in the country, various difficult situations have arisen.

As the National Assembly has formerly been supporting the Government, the resolution impeaching the Government proves the increased difficulty of the people.

Wang Keh-Min to Tour

Domei

PEKING, May 16.—Wang Kehmin, former Chairman of the North China Political Affairs Commission, accompanied by Shao Tung-hu, councillor of the Commission, left here for Hsinking by train at 1 o'clock this afternoon.

Mr. Wang intends to inspect the conditions in Manchoukuo and his inspection trip is not official.

Koiso for Tokyo

Domei

KEIJO May 16.—General Kuniaki Koiso Governor-General of Chosen, left Keijo for Tokyo yesterday.

En route to the Japanese capital, General Koiso plans to inspect Fusan, arrive in Kyoto on May 17 and reach Tokyo on May 20 after worshipping at the Ise Grand Shrines.

ENEMY ROUTED IN FIERCE PUSH IN HUNAN AREA

Nippon Units Smash Headquarters of Chungking's 118th Division

Domei

ON HUNAN FRONT, May 16.—Japanese Units, operating in the mountainous region along the southern Hunan border against Chungking remnants, attacked enemy positions at Pengchiachang situated 35 kilometers southwest of Kungan on May 13 and destroyed the headquarters of the 118th Chungking Division, according to field dispatches, received here.

General Wang Yen, Commander of the 118th Division narrowly escaped with his life to the area northwest of Lihsien.

It was further disclosed that Japanese Units, operating in the southern Hunan Provincial border regions against 2,000 Chungking remnants of the 43rd and the 50th Divisions in the neighborhood of Pengchiachang, between May 13 and 15, found 650 enemy dead on the battlefield and capured 330 of the remnants including five officers.

War trophies gained by the Japanese Forces during the three days included two trench mortars, six heavy machine guns, 12 light machine guns, 120 rifles, 5 bombthrowers 560 hand grenades and 35 horses.

Planes Rout Remnants

Domei

JAPANESE BASE, May 16.—Closely cooperating with Imperial Land Units operating in the Hupeh-Hunan border regions against Chungking troops of the 10th Group Army, a strong formation of Japanese Army planes this morning in defiance of bad weather machine-gunned and routed about 1,000 Chungking remnants in the vicinity of Nuanshuichieh about six kilometers west of Sichai in the southern Hupeh border region, according to field dispatches.

Meanwhile, another formation of Japanese Army planes dealt an annihilating blow to a group of Chungking troops concentrated in the neighborhood of Chakou, about eight kilometers southwest of Nuanshuichieh.

GOVERNOR YANG INSPECTS REHABILITATION WORKS

Hunan Executive Discusses Post-War Plans

Domei

HUNAN FRONT, May 16.—Yang Kuei-i, Governor of Hunan Province, arrived at a certain Hunan front by air this morning in order to inspect construction work progressing smoothly in the Province, which had been detached from the Chungking regime as the result of the summer operation.

On his arrival at the front, Governor Yang called on the commander of a certain unit and thanked him for his efforts made in connection with the recent operation.

At noon, Governor Yang conferred with several Chinese leaders, and exchanged views with them on postbellum peace operation, guidance of the populace and other important matters.

In the afternoon, the Governor visited a certain Japanese field hospital, and later he inspected several Chinese organs.

Japanese Administrations in South To Get Wooden Images of God of Wealth

Ceremonies marking the dedication of seven wooden images of Daikokujin (Japanese God of Wealth) to be presented to Japanese Military Administrations in the Southern Regions through the War Ministry were held her on Sunday under the auspices of the East Asia Fortune Society.

The seven images measuring approximately one foot 6 inches were made by Zenjiro Osawa Japan's outstanding sculptor. Mr. Osawa is expected to make 19 more images shortly making a total of 26 in all.

Supported by the War, Navy, and Greater East Asiatic Affairs Ministries, Greater East Asia Development League, and other Government offices, the ceremony was attended by 300 dignitaries including Prince Sanetaka Ichijo, Viscount Takamitsu Mimuroto and Lieutenant-General Heisuke Yanagawa, former Justice Minister.

The military administrations which will receive the images include those in Java, the Philippines, Borneo, Sumatra, Malai, Burma as well as the Hongkong Government-General.

SUZUKI EXHORTS IRON WORKERS

Emphasizes Spirit, Skill That Make The Japanese Sword

Encouraging workers in an iron foundry during his tour of inspection of industrial plants in Kanagawa Prefecture, Lieutenant-General Teiichi Suzuki, in his capacity of State Minister, declared on Sunday that the future of the Japanese race is secure if the spirit and craftsmanship which goes into the making of the world-famous Japanese sword be employed in producing the armaments of war, stated Domei.

"The weapons of war are symbolical of the state of development of the race," the State Minister said, noting that the Japanese race has the distinction of producing the Japanese sword which is unsurpassed in excellence by no other nation in the world.

Lieutenant-General Suzuki emphasized, therefore, that no enemy, however powerful,, need be feared should that spirit, which tempers the steel of the Japanese sword, fire the hearts of the 100,000,000 Japanese.

"The ways of victory are many," he declared, pointing out that every workshop is a battlefield and every worker a soldier no less than those who are fighting in the far northern front in the Aleutians and in New Guinea and Burma in the South. "The task of each individual worker is an extension of the duty assigned to soldiers in the far-flung battlelines," he asserted.

Lauding the efforts of the workers during the past, Lieutenant-General Suzuki, concluded by saying that the problem ultimately depends on the spirit of the worker—a spirit which he said he felt assured the workers were manifesting now and continue to do so in the future.

REBEL FRENCH REGIME GIVEN CONTROL OF TUNIS

Made Protectorate—Esteva Court-Martialed

By Arrangement with the Asahi (Special to the Nippon Times)

ROME, May 15.—The puppet regime in French North Africa announced that Tunisia has been placed under its control and made a protectorate, according, to information reaching here from Tangiers.

At the same time, the entire French residents in Tunisia have been mobilized for military service.

Sidi Ahmend, the Bey of Tunisia, who had been placed under the protection of the French army at a suburb of Tunisia, was deprived of the rank of the Bey, and his cousin, Mohammed El Amin, was made the new Bey, it is also reported.

Meanwhile, the Tunisian court martial sentenced by default French Resident-General Admiral Jean Esteva and four other high French officials to death on the ground that they had cooperated with the Axis nations, according to reports from Algiers.

LEWIS IS SEVERELY HIT FOR UNPATRIOTIC STAND

Accused of Taking Advantage of Crisis

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, May 15.—The United States Committee on Industrial Organization issued its resolution, following a two days' conference of the Committee, in connection with the American coal miners' strike, the temporary suspension of which ends on May 18.

The resolution severely attacks John L. Lewis, Chairman of the United Mine Workers' Union of America, as utilizing the strike at a time when the nation is engaged in war as personal retaliation against President Franklin Roosevelt.

Also the Committee demanded the War Labor Bureau to make fair adjustments in the coal miners' wages.

America Makes Huge Demands Of Soviet Union

(Continued From Page 1)

basic point of the present Soviet diplomacy.

At any rate, the intensification of such American machinations against the Soviet Union are considered to be proof that the United States entertains fear over an "unexpected development" of the German-Soviet war revolving around the Japanese Soviet Neutrality Treaty.

However, diplomatic observers here believe that even if the United States fails in her present attempt to curry the favor of the Soviets, greater possibility will arise in America's so-called general offensive in the Pacific.

Faith and Certainty of Victory Expressed by Italians From Tunis

Telegraph Operators, Last at Post, Praise Fighting Spirit of Fascist Troops During Height of Battle

A news item from Rome has reached here concerning the faith and certainty to attain victory, expressed in two radio messages sent directly from the battlefield in Tunisia by the radio telegraphists of the Italian First Army, according to the local Italian Embassy.

These messages were sent while the fighting was going on at its highest intensity, so much so that the receiving station in Italy could almost hear the detonation of aerial bombardments around the transmitting stations which interrupted many times the dispatches being forwarded.

The messages said that the radiotelegraphist unit had received the order to destroy all equipment in order to avoid them from possibly falling into the hands of the enemy.

Before putting into action this order the radio men said they would send by air the following message: "To all our colleagues, the subofficers of the Italian Army, we address to you our brotherly greetings and beg you to have faith, total and complete in our leaders, and in that victory which we will surely attain. We are encouraged by the sublime vision of the flags which you will very soon make to wave here when you will come back to Africa. In the name of all our fighting men here, I sign: "the chief telegraphic sergeant, Torre."

The other message reads as follows: "To all Italian mothers: be brave, don't cry, don't let useless tears dampen your eyes. Your children, your husbands fought beyond all human possibilities. Have always faith in victory; be proud of your children and your husbands. The men of the 143rd Radio Group are all of them more than sure of victory and they send their greetings to all Italians with the certainty that all our aims will be reached. We will come back. We sign off, chief corporal, Caputo Luigi, and the radio telegraphist Magini Battista."

OUR PLANES SINK FOE SUBMARINE

Vivid Account of Attack On Undersea Craft in S. Pacific Given

Vivid accounts of the assaults made on three enemy submarines, and the sinking of one of the three undersea craft, that have recently intensified their petty guerilla warfares against Japanese convoys in the southern waters were candidly recounted by Colonel Tadashi Suzuki and Lieutenant-Colonel Kaname Nakajima, Imperial Army fliers who on May 4 participated in the encounter at the mouth of X X Harbor at the Northern extremity of X X, according to a Domei report received from an undisclosed base.

The experience was retold in gist as follows:

"On May 4, our squadron of reconnoitering and bombing planes was assigned to convoy a squadron of transports that was to pass by the X X Island.

"We immediately departed for our destination but unfortunately on that day, our vision was completely obstructed by thick cloud banks that obliterated the locality of the X X Island. As we scouted for the transport squadron, we were suddenly accosted by a severe squall which forced us to proceed to the locality of X X Island where the transport squadron was supposed to pass.

"However, this entire area was also shrouded by dense cloud banks. We lowered our planes to an extremely low altitude and began to scour the waters for the sight of our transports.

"As we neared the mouth of X X Harbor, one of the crew shouted, 'Enemy Submarines!'" Sure enough, three enemy submarines that had already started to submerge were cutting through the waves like vicious sharks. Only the conning tower of the first craft showed above the water.

"When we discovered our prey we were in a disadvantageous position for an attack so we had to waste valuable moments to get into an effective attack position. Our preys were fast slipping for cover in the murkey depths of the ocean!

"As we swooped over the enemy submarines and dropped our missiles, only the bubbling sea marked the locality of the submerged craft. Every member of our party muttered silent prayers that our missiles would find their marks.

"Suddenly on the quiet surface of the ocean, a large ring was formed and red and dark blue spots speckled the purl. The crew in our craft simultaneously exclaimed, 'We've succeeded!'

"Although we were not able to discover the transports, we were satisfied with our unexpected exploit."

BRITISH EMPLOY CRIPPLES, BLIND

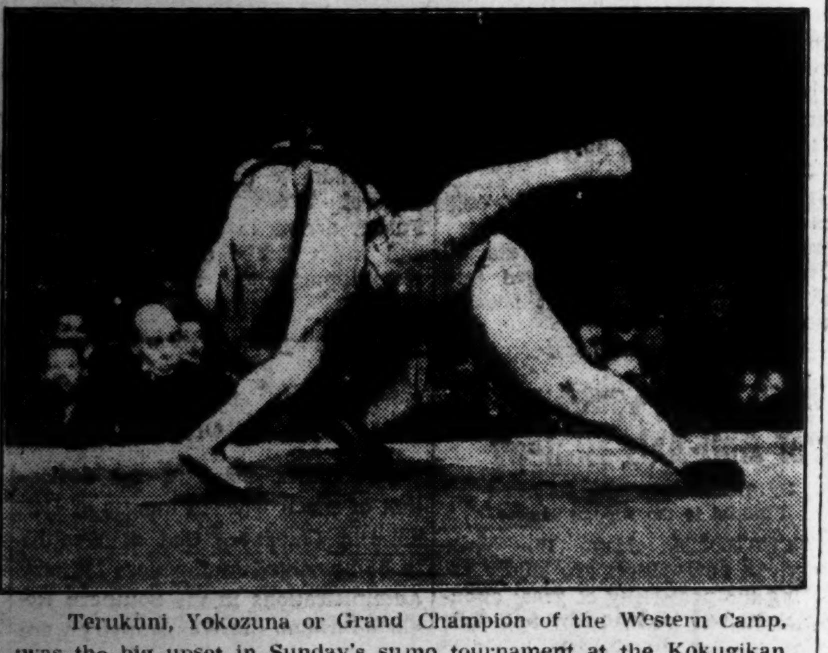
Aircraft Industry Also Uses Youths Just Over 14 Years

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, May 16.—The results of the findings of the committee dispatched by the United States to investigate the production methods of the British aeronautic industry were reported as follows by Carlton Wood, a member of the American investigation committee, according to New York wire reaching here today.

1. The British Aircraft Production Ministry plans another 30 per cent increase in output.
2. Young boys over the age of 14 years and six months, as well as women with children, have been mobilized for service in the British aircraft industry. Also, the lame and the blind are employed in certain special phases of the industry.
3. In order to escape destruction at a single blow, the British aircraft factories are scattered in small units over an area of some 30 square miles.
4. In a certain large city, two tunnels, extending for a distance of seven and a half miles, have been excavated and an underground aircraft factory constructed, employing some 2,000 to 3,000 workers of which 20 per cent are women.
5. Emergency repair units have been organized by the Aircraft Production Ministry, and in case a factory should be bombed, trucks loaded with the necessary machinery and equipment will speed to the spot and immediately restore the damaged factory to its former operating condition.

Hits The Dirt



Terukuni, Yokozuna or Grand Champion of the Western Camp, was the big upset in Sunday's sumo tournament at the Kokugikan Amphitheater when the behemoth wrestler was thrown for his first defeat on the fifth day of the summer match by Matsuuragata of the Eastern Camp, who achieved the great feat with an upper-hand throw. Terukuni is the first of the four Grand Champions to receive the 'black mark' this season, which is to continue for 15 days.

Photo shows the exciting scene with Terukuni on the right.

HANLEY URGES NEW STRATEGY

Bombing Industrial Facilities More Vital, Says U.S. Officer

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, May 15.—The greater importance of strategic bombing of rear industrial facilities than bombing of front equipment was urged by Brigadier-General Thomas Hanley, Vice-Chief of Staff of the United States Army Air Forces, today, according to reports from Washington.

"Judging from the actual war results in North African and Eastern fronts, the strategic bombing of factories, mines, electric generating plants, and production facilities in the rear is more important than the bombing of fuel tanks, guns, transport trains and other equipment at the front," he said, "because the results are accumulative and affect wide fields, though their concrete effect is not shown at once, as in case of submarine operation.

"As far as airplanes are concerned, the key of victory is in heavy bombers as endorsed by the air force activities in the Tunisian front."

Press Comments

(Continued from Page 1)

a landing in Europe as a prelude to the foregoing decisive battle. The area north of the European Continent extending from the northern tip of Norway to the French-Spanish border is already turned into iron-walled fortresses. The southern area in the Mediterranean was also strongly fortified in the past half year.

Therefore, any attempt to make a landing in the face of such strong defense would be a most difficult task. It would be impossible to make any such attempt unless the invaders are determined to pay enormous sacrifices imaginable. But it is doubtful if the United States and Britain have such a determination.

In these circumstances, what they would possibly do is thought to be their usual propaganda from the other side of the Mediterranean and the Dover Straits with a view to drawing the neutral countries to their side in the expectation of effecting an unopposed landing as in the case of their landing in North Africa last fall.

The Axis side would never remain with folded arms, in face of a possible landing of the enemy forces. What strategy Germany and Italy would carry out against the United States and Britain is in the mind of Reichsfuehrer Adolf Hitler, and this would not be allowed to leak out. For instance, a landing on the homeland of Britain is a matter to be pondered over. If carried out, this would be a decisive blow to the enemy camp, because this would be a more serious affair than any landing of the Anglo-American forces on the continent of Europe.

Churchill in his radio speech on the night of May 14 stated that his homeland is separated by 21 miles only from the spot where there are German fortifications and pointed out also that it can be reached from German air bases in a few minutes. Thus, he emphasized that the danger of a possible German landing on the British homeland has never disappeared. With the steady approach of the decisive battle, the foregoing danger should be regarded as having become more intensified than ever.

This is only one instance. Possibly Reichsfuehrer Hitler has a greater strategy to give a fatal blow to America and Britain. In short, the war is still at the threshold and nobody should be led astray by any exaggerated propaganda of the anti-Axis camp.

Yankees Place Too Much Faith In Country's Economic Power

Shortage of Manpower and Basic Materials Crippling War Industries—Living Conditions Harass People—Now Is Time to Deal Death Blow

Pointing out America's over-confidence in its economic power and its increasingly obstinate efforts to beat Japan, Dr. Masataka Ohta, member of the Greater East Asia War Investigation Commission, urges the nation to redouble their resolution to completely smash the Yankees' fighting spirit, in his article contributed to the Mainichi.

Dr. Ohta's article follows in substance:

"For Japan, it is the United States that forms the main body of the enemy. Britain is conducting a counter-offensive along the Burmese-Indian border, it is true, but behind the fighting power of the Anglo-Indian forces the strong material support of the United States counts a great deal. We should bear it in mind that the huge statue of the United States looms before all enemy forces. It is known what an important role the United States has been playing in extending material support to the anti-Axis forces to push operations in Europe and North Africa as well.

"War lies in fighting and diplomacy. In winning over neutral countries to its own side the United States is giving full play to its economic power. It is now applying diplomatic tactics, already put to the test in South America, to Turkey and the Iberian Peninsula. Its diplomatic spearhead may be considered possible to be turned to East Asia sooner or later. By backing its armed and diplomatic warfare with its economic power, the United States has been making desperate efforts to turn the tide.

"What, then, is the true power of its economy and materials in which it lays such over-confidence? The answer is very simple. It is not so strong as being propagandized by the enemy, and yet it must not be made light of.

U.S. Resources Running Short

"Let me review America's not so strong economic and material power from as follows:

"To take aircraft for instance, America's production goal for last year was for 60,000 machines. In spite of its bombastic declaration, no more than 48,000 planes were turned out. What does such a serious miscarriage of the plan suggest? Even considering its efforts concentrated on the manufacture of large-sized bombers and long-range transport planes it is undeniable that the main factor was the shortage of basic materials indispensable for the making of aircraft such as iron, copper, etc. So is rubber.

"It is easy to put down astronomical figures on a plan, but it is not easy to obtain material sufficient to carry it out. The United States has already begun to feel the shortage of materials.

"How about America's labor resources? According to the present state of America's manpower resources for labor, and its relation with the armed forces of the army and navy, the ratio would stand at five laborers to one fighting man. It is usually held in Europe and America that eight workers are necessary to support one fighting man. What a large difference!

"Mobilization of women and others may be considered. But for the United States which depends on figures rather than spiritual elements, it is considered pretty difficult to raise the necessary manpower. In his message issued on January 6, therefore, President Roosevelt emphasized the necessity of raising new manpower, urging an increase of 6,000,000 new workers.

"Commodity prices in the United States are steadily mounting. It has affected the workers' living, and, as a result the recent coal mine dispute broke out. An enormous sum of $109,000,000,000 has already been circulated for war expenditures, and yet materials are not sufficiently available. Such being the situation, it is absolutely impossible to fend off the advent of a vicious inflation. So long as the Americans indulge in liberalism, the rise in prices cannot be curbed.

"Then, to what extent will the United States be able to raise the efficiency of production hereafter? Supposing the 1935-39 year average is 100, the figure became 193 at the end of last year, certainly a big increase. From various conditions, the view is quite influential that this production figure will reach the top at 195.5. If this view is taken at its face value and the trends of last year are taken into consideration, the highest peak in American production efficiency will be reached some time between the summer and autumn of this year. Will the United States be able to maintain this figure for next year? Or will it then follow a downward trend? In this connection, there is little mistake that the current year's figure is of the highest. It will be interesting for us to consider the situation in the light of the astronomical figures.

Fears Japan's Strength

"Now, let us see how the United States is viewing Japan. Recently it has begun to take an unusual concern about the fighting strength of our country. However, before the outbreak of the war, it seriously neglected Japan's fighting power. America thought Japan had no money and no materials. Supply no oil and give no iron, and Japan would be forced to the wall. Nowadays the Americans have become convinced that the economic policy Henry Morgenthau Jr., United States Secretary of the Treasury, including the assets freezing decree, originated from a mistaken view held concerning the financial potentiality of Japan.

"It has become impossible to close the eyes to the stern fact that Japan has enough war funds and has sufficient materials to splendidly fight out the present gigantic war. As pointed out by the former American Ambassador to Japan Joseph C. Grew, the United States has begun to assume a new attitude by abandoning the pre-wartime habit of taking a light view of Japan. Therefore, the Japanese nation should gird up their loins more tightly than ever to cope with the new situation.

"Also, the United States held a view that even if Japan took the Southern Regions, Japan would not have enough economic power nor technical knowledge to assimilate the new resources. However, on looking at the growing development of the construction work under the military administration, the Americans have come under the necessity of rectifying their opinions for the second time. They have begun to feel that the longer the war lasts the greater will be the growth of the strength of Japan.

Therefore, they have made up their minds to beat Japan within this year which they regard as the most advantageous year for themselves. America has sent out her troops to 58 different places in the world and is sharpening her poisonous claws for the gratification of her ambition for world hegemony. Taking advantage of this trend of the political situation, that ambitious leader, Roosevelt, is designing his fourth-term in the Presidential election scheduled for next year.

It is up to Japan to give a heavy blow to the Americans until their fighting power is completely crushed."

Nippon Times
Published by
The Nippon Times, Limited
TOSHI GO, President and Editor

TOKYO OFFICE:
1, Itchome, Uchisaiwai-cho, Kojimachi-ku.
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Telegraphic Address: "Times Tokyoyubin."
Furikae No. Tokyo 64848.

BRANCH OFFICES:
OSAKA, Dojima Bldg., Tel. Kita 1770.
YOKOHAMA, 1, Itchome, Kaigan-dori. Tel. Honkyoku (2) 5240.
KOBE, 65 Naniwa-machi, Kobe-ku, Tel. Sannomiya 3970-71.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
One month, ¥5.00; six months, ¥28.00; one year, ¥55.00. Postage free to all parts of the Japanese Empire, Manchoukuo and China. For foreign countries, including postage, six months, ¥42.40; one year, ¥83.80. All subscriptions are payable in advance.

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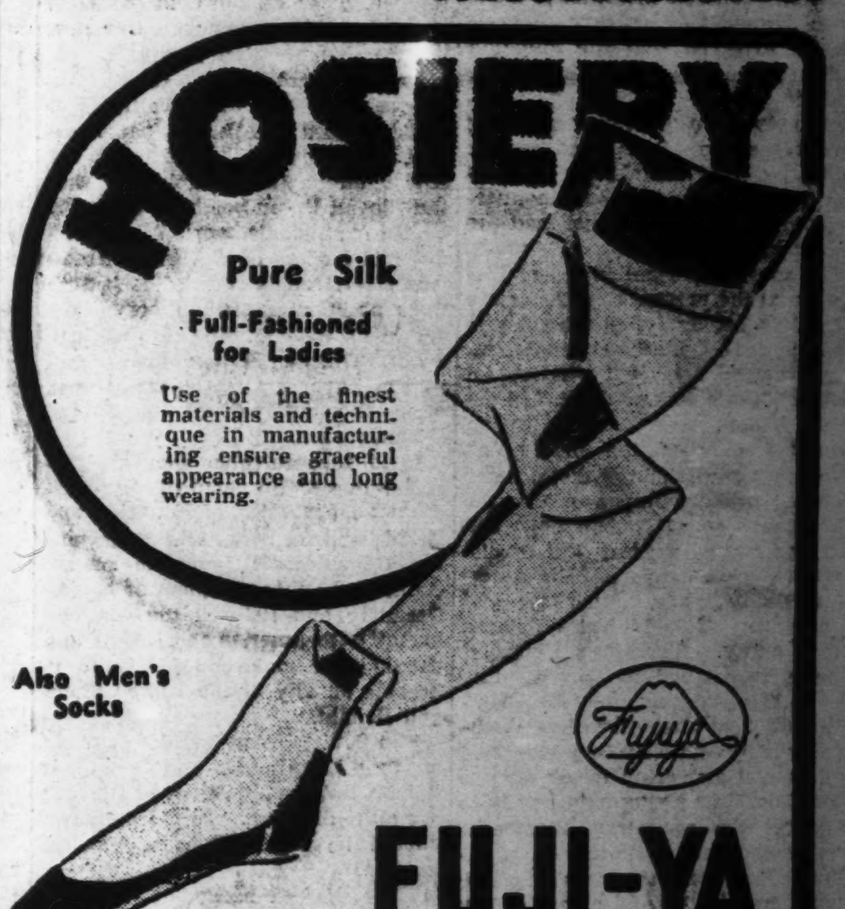

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Publisher and Printer: ....SHOICHI KAWAMURA